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Assad raps Arafat, Hussein for peace with Israel

News agencies

SYRIAN President Hafez Assad has accused Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Jordan's King Hussein of being short-sighted in rushing to make peace with Israel before Syria.

"Some Arab brothers are definitely not right, and they are gambling with what they believe is their interest. I believe the vision they measure their steps with is very short-sighted," he said in a lengthy interview with the editor of the official Egyptian newspaper *Al-Ahram*.

Assad said he would not succumb to pressure to make peace regardless of the outcome.

"It is out the question that we will do something that we do not believe in," he said. "If what we want is available, then there will be peace, otherwise we will stay as we are."

He said Syria utterly rejects Israeli proposals for the establishment of early warning posts on Syrian soil, and proposed aerial surveillance instead. He had relayed this position to US envoy Dennis Ross in one of their meetings in Damascus.

"I told Ross in Damascus I heard [Israeli] talk about early warning systems. If they are thinking of having early warning posts on land, the matter is not subject to discussion, even if the whole peace process collapses because we do not want to get rid of one occupation to have another one."

"We don't want any symbol of occupation to remain in our country... Of course, in this situation there could be alternative ways to monitor, but not on the land... from the air."

Assad said Syria would boycott the Middle East economic summit in Amman this month, because the forum rewards Israel with regional recognition and normal ties before it returned Arab land.

"Such summits are of no benefits. The direct aim is to normalize without peace and to put pressure on those who did not. This is why we will not attend," Assad added.

Assad admitted there are clouds in relations with Jordan following its peace agreement with Israel and King Hussein's decision to grant political asylum to the son-in-law of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.



A float depicting the City of Jerusalem wends its way down the parade route yesterday. (Brian Hendler)

Quarter million spectators view Jerusalem 3000 parade

LIAT COLLINS

JERUSALEM put its best foot forward with the annual Succot march and the 3,000th anniversary celebration parade yesterday. The result was a mixture of fests and felafl.

While the 80,000 participants confused about a chance to show their support for Israel and Jerusalem, they seemed to have a better time than the quarter million spectators, who found it hard to see the slow-moving parade and carnival floats.

"I've seen better," said President Ezer Weizman on the VIP stand, before softening a bit to add, "But it's very pretty."

At least Weizman was cheered

by the crowd, unlike Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who for the second day running was booed in public. To cap Rabin's humiliation, Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi succeeded in broadcasting Likud propaganda to the premier's stand by tapping into the public address system until cut off by police.

It wasn't just the politics which distinguished Jerusalem from Rio de Janeiro. Not only were the women participants fully dressed, even the model of Michaelangelo's David on an Italian float came modestly clad in concrete underpants.

Unlike other Jerusalem 3000 events, there was no sign of a foreign boycott. Participants came from 67 countries, from Australia to Zimbabwe.

Many of the participants were friends of Israel brought over by the Christian Embassy in Jerusalem who bore banners stating, "God Bless Israel."

Not all those who played, prayed, pranced, and paraded had the comfort of numbers. While delegations from places like the US comprised hundreds of marchers, a solitary participant carried a banner proclaiming: "God bless you from Samoa." A (Continued on Page 2)

Returned terrorist chieftains to govern Ramallah, Nablus

PINHAS INBARI

TWO former members of Fatah's military wing, Mustafa Lifiawi and Mahmoud Aloul, returned to the territories from Jordan on Tuesday, and the Palestinian Authority is expected to appoint them district governors in their native towns of Ramallah and Nablus.

Their return was approved by Israel.

The two were both senior members of the late Abu Jihad's "Western Sector" military arm, and Lifiawi headed the "Jerusalem Committee" that was responsible for terrorist activities in Jerusalem and Ramallah.

The most infamous attack associated with the two occurred in Jerusalem in 1975, when a bomb planted in a refrigerator exploded in the city center, killing 14 people and wounding more than 100.

The two also recruited Greek Catholic Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, who was convicted by an Israeli court in 1976 of smuggling arms to Palestinian terrorists, but was later released after intervention by the Vatican.

Palestinian sources said Israel had decided to allow Lifiawi and Aloul to return, and would consider allowing the other members of the Abu Jihad military wing to return.

The PA has asked Israel to allow the return of all members of the Western Sector, a total of several hundred people. However, Israeli security sources say there is no chance of this.

However, another activist, Izadin Sharif, from Kalkiya, is expected to return soon, perhaps today.

Israel hopes that Lifiawi and

Aloul will help PA Chairman Yasser Arafat to combat terrorism. However, PA sources say their return is aimed at helping to organize Fatah in the territories.

Lifiawi arranged Arafat's infiltration into the West Bank after the Six Day War, hiding him in Ramallah and transporting him in his car past IDF roadblocks.

The General Security Service detected Arafat, who managed to escape, but Lifiawi was caught and imprisoned. He was later released for humanitarian reasons and, instead of agreeing to give up terrorism, left for Beirut and was later transferred to Amman.

Liav Collins adds:

Commenting on the return of the two, Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu said: "Putting those murderers in charge of our security is like placing [child kidnapper and murderer] Zvi Goren at the head of the National Council for the Child."

IDF soldier seriously wounded in Lebanon

Hizbullah gunman killed; troops thwart
planned large-scale attack

DAVID RUDGE

AN IDF soldier was seriously wounded yesterday in a clash in which one Hizbullah gunman was killed and two others were reported wounded near the northern border of the security zone.

A senior officer said the troops involved in the encounter had thwarted a potentially far more serious attack the terrorists had been preparing against IDF or South Lebanese Army targets in the zone.

The incident followed a lull in hostile activities, especially by Hizbullah.

The wounded Nahal Brigade soldier, Sgt. Itai Tzuk, 20, from Herzliya, was evacuated by helicopter to Haifa's Rambam Hospital, where he was admitted with serious head wounds. Deputy hospital director Dr. Zvi Ben-Ishai said he underwent surgery for several hours, then was transferred to the neurosurgery intensive care unit, where his condition remained serious last night.

Tzuk had not regained consciousness and was on a respirator. His family was at his bedside.

The clash occurred early yesterday morning, when a combined Armored Corps and Nahal Brigade force patrolled the eastern sector of the zone, not far from Tibnit village. The IDF troops spotted a terrorist squad and the armor opened fire at them.

Searches of the area afterward revealed the body of one gunman as well as a large quantity of weapons, indicating the terrorists

had planned to carry out an attack in the area.

At least one of the terrorists managed to flee, taking cover behind a house in Tibnit where he opened fire as the soldiers returned from the search.

Lebanese radio stations said gunmen also fired several mortar rounds at the IDF troops.

"The terrorists again took advantage of one of the houses beyond the security zone, in this case an occupied house, to carry out shooting," said Col. A. "The firing was light and not very accurate, and in my estimation the wounding of the soldier, one of not a few soldiers in the area, was a case of bad luck."

"Nevertheless, it shows the problems of fighting in this area... and the fact you can't watch every window and every opening. It's necessary to carry out what should be done and leave the field quickly, as we had planned, but a bullet hit one of the soldiers," said Col. A.

He noted that the area had been the scene of several terrorist attacks in the past and is problematic, because it is residential while its outskirts are overgrown with vegetation. "This area is so problematic that we have lost four soldiers in the area in the past year, and not a few explosive devices have been planted against our forces," he said.

"I am pleased that on this occasion, as a result of the alertness

and quickness of the troops, the matter [which the terrorists were planning] was caught in time and thwarted completely."

Col. A. said yesterday's incident was one of several that had occurred recently. "The five incidents, however, that I am aware of in the zone recently, in which terrorists were hit or killed, were not initiated by the IDF. We are not trying to create a reality of unnecessary activity. We just do what is necessary in the best way possible."

Hizbullah claimed responsibility for the clash on its own radio station, saying its fighters had "blocked an advance by Zionist forces towards Kafr Tibnit and forced them to return with many casualties."

More fighting was reported in the security zone later in the day.

Reports from Lebanon said IDF tanks and mortars shelled suspected terrorist targets near Majdal Zoun village, north of the security zone in the western sector.

The reports said IAF helicopter gunships also fired at suspected targets in wadis in the same region. There were no reports of any casualties in the fighting.

Later Hizbullah gunmen fired several Katyusha rockets and mortar rounds at an SLA outpost in the same region of the zone. There were no reports of casualties and IDF and SLA gunners returned fire.

Nasrallah admits to receiving indirect Syrian aid, Page 2

'Iraq tested biological toxins on animals'

UNITED NATIONS (AP) - Iraq tested biological toxins on sheep and donkeys, clandestinely developed missile engines and misled UN inspectors on the vast scope of its weapons programs, the chief UN weapons inspector said in a report yesterday.

The report comes as UN weapons monitors sift through 680,000 pages of documents that Iraq handed over to the inspectors following the August defection of its weapons chief, Lt. Gen. Hussein Kamel Majid.

"Iraq's efforts to conceal its biological weapons program, its chemical missile war-

head flight tests and work on the development of a missile for the delivery of a nuclear device led it to provide incorrect information concerning certain of its missile activities," the chief UN weapons inspector, Rolf Ekeus, said in his report to the Security Council.

He said Iraq has agreed to further cooperation with the inspectors.

In August, Iraq admitted that it had 199 missiles and bombs tipped with germ warfare agents and a crash program to make a nuclear weapon.

The report details Iraq's ambitious efforts to produce chemical and biological weapons and says that some biological toxins were tested on animals, including sheep, donkeys, monkeys and dogs.

Iraq claims to have destroyed the toxins in 1991 after the Gulf War.

Security Council members have repeatedly said they will not consider easing the five-year-old UN trade sanctions against Iraq until Baghdad fully cooperates with UN weapons monitors. The sanctions were imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Kippot scarce at opening of world's first kosher McDonald's

HAIM SHAPIRO

THE Big Mac may have been kosher, but there was hardly a kippa in sight at the opening of the world's first kosher McDonald's yesterday at the Harel shopping mall in Mevasseret Zion, just outside Jerusalem.

The illuminated menu on the wall looked almost like that of the other 18 outlets which the American-based fast-food chain has opened throughout Israel - except there were no cheeseburgers, milk shakes, or sundaes listed.

According to Omri Padan, McDonald's Israeli licensee, all of the Israeli outlets use kosher ingredients.

However, that has not deflected a constant stream of criticism against the chain for its failure to observe kashrut, especially

in Jerusalem, for introducing so-called "American" cultural values, and for erecting a restaurant at the Golani Junction war memorial.

The existence of the other non-kosher McDonald's around the country did not deter Rabbi Yossi Sarid (no relation to the MK), head of the Mevasseret Zion Religious Council, from issuing the kashrut certificate. Sarid stressed that both the certificate and the signs read "the kosher McDonald's," to differentiate them from the others.

Sarid noted that other food chains in the country have both kosher and non-kosher outlets and that one of his conditions was that the chain must open no non-kosher branch within the jurisdiction of the religious council.

Padan said he intends to open

additional kosher outlets in Rehovot and Ra'anana. He added that the chain also has plans to open a kosher outlet in Jerusalem and that the only obstacle is the refusal of the Jerusalem Rabbinate to allow a kosher McDonald's to operate in the city together with its existing non-kosher branch. Padan said he has no plans to turn that outlet kosher.

After Sarid and Padan together cut the ribbon opening the branch, swarms of children and adults approached the food counter, grabbed balloons, and donned McDonald's hats. However, while several obviously religious families came to look, none of them seemed to want to buy. At least one kippa-wearing onlooker expressed his reservations

about the influence of such a restaurant.

"I'm not sure that it's suitable for the Israeli cultural environ-

ment," said Menachem Goldstein of Ma'aleh Adumim, who came to see the new mall with his daughter Michal, 3.

Sarid did not eat either, although he insisted he has no ob-

jection in principle to eating any of the products at the kosher McDonald's.

"Ask me next week. This week I won't eat here, because they don't have a succa," Sarid said.

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Redeployment, prisoner release continue

SOME 900 Palestinian prisoners were released by late last night, in the first stage of the prisoner release mandated by the Oslo 2 agreement.

Scores of convicted criminals had awaited their release Tuesday night and last night, but faulty documentation and confusion over the number to be released caused unexpected delays.

A total of 966 Palestinians will have been released when all records and papers are transferred to Palestinian authorities.

Yesterday, meanwhile, the civil administration handed over its offices in Kabatiya (near Jenin), Kharbata (near Ramallah), and Yatta (outside Hebron). Short ceremonies marked the transfer of power in the three rural Area B villages, after which Palestinian flags were hoisted on the buildings used by Israeli authorities for almost three decades. Excitement was greatest in Kabatiya, one of the focal points during the early years of the intifada.

With the closing of the three offices and the one in Salfit on Tuesday, the civil administration now has 10 installations in Area B, the rural areas of Samaria and

ALON PINKAS

Judea. Of the 10, eight will be closed after the Palestinians receive full control of 40 civilian authorities and powers.

Two other offices - in Dotan (Jenin area) and A-Ram (near Ramallah) will become district coordination offices.

The first civil administration office to be dismantled in Area A (major towns and cities) will be in Jenin next month, when the IDF redeployed outside the city.

Following the stone-throwing which accompanied the handover of the civil administration office in Salfit, Coordinator of Activities in the Territories Maj.-Gen. Oren Shabor met with Jamil Tarifi, head of civil affairs at the Palestinian Authority.

Shabor asked him to make sure the transfer of power is conducted in an orderly and respectful manner.

As the first of three waves of prisoner releases ended yesterday, both parties made visible efforts to rectify the confusion and clear the murky atmosphere which dominated Tuesday's release.

Despite a threat not to accept their release from prison unless Israel freed all women prisoners, the vast majority of male prisoners defied the Palestinian leadership and left, rather than comply with what their leaders thought would be an effective political act.

Police spokesman Eric Bar-Chen said that of some 5,300 prisoners held by Israel, 882 were set free on Tuesday, 507 of whom were jailed for security offenses and 375 for other crimes.

Bar-Chen confirmed that a further 84 convicted criminals were to be released, but said the Palestinian Authority had not yet sent representatives to collect them.

"The most important thing is that they have to release what has been agreed upon, according to what we have signed in Washington," PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat told reporters yesterday.

Under the Oslo 2 agreement, Israel must release prisoners in three stages: a week following the signing of the accord; a second wave before elections to the Palestinian Council (expected in either January or April 1996); and a third during final-status talks, due to begin in May.



(From left) Avner Harnamati, Baruch Lior, Yigal Tzacher, and Itai Shmuel are part of a group of spiritual and intellectual leaders from the right and left holding a dialogue yesterday in a 'peace succa' put up by the United Kibbutz Movement at its Tel Aviv headquarters. The group, 'Besed Shih' (the Israeli Association for Dialogue Between Conflicting Groups), has called on the government to respect the electorate's diverse and conflicting views regarding the peace process.

(Text: Batsheva Tsor; photo: Ilan Ossensky/Israel Sun)

Hamas in Khartoum refuses to allow halt to terror

PINHAS INBARI

THE leadership of the Moslem Brotherhood in Khartoum has not agreed to order Hamas' military wing, Izzadin Kassam, to halt acts of terrorism, but will only consider a truce with the Palestinian Authority, according to PA sources in Gaza.

Such a truce would be the product of an "understanding," rather than a formally signed agreement, the reports say.

The Brotherhood is also allowing Hamas in Gaza to continue its dialogue with the PA on matters of common interest, but not to pursue a political agreement.

It has also ordered Hamas not to issue any document or even poster suggesting it has changed its stand towards jihad in any way.

Two Gaza Hamas delegates to Khartoum, Sheikh Ismail Hanaya and Khaled Hindi, told the Brotherhood leadership that Izzadin Kassam activities are endangering the organization, including its educational and social welfare infrastructure.

The delegates returned to

Gaza last night.

Among other topics raised was the possibility of Hamas becoming a political party; a question also applying to Jordan and about which there is no apparent consensus.

PA sources said they do not expect the Moslem Brotherhood to allow Hamas to reach an agreement with the authority. In fact, the sources say, the PA is working to sharpen the differences between the Hamas leadership within the territories and abroad.

Correspondingly, the Hamas leadership abroad is trying to subvert the agreements between Israel and the PLO.

Mahmoud Zahar, a Hamas leader who was freed from prison Sunday told AP yesterday that Hamas and the PA have never been closer to an agreement.

"We are looking forward to a new era in the relationship between Hamas and the PA," he added.

Col. Jibril Rajoub, head of the PLO's Preventive Security, said he expects an agreement to be finalized before Palestinian troops begin deploying in the West Bank later this month.

"These people [Hamas] are patriots, and I don't expect them to carry out any acts, including military acts, that will hurt Palestinian interests," Rajoub told the AP.

"We will have to weigh the benefits and drawbacks," said Zahar. "If we are able to achieve our aims without violence, we will do it. Violence is a method, it's not an aim."

Zahar, who advocates creating a Hamas political party, stressed that a decision to use restraint would not conflict with the goals of the movement.

"We will not recognize Israel, but we can have a cease-fire with Israel for days, months, years. We can use weapons against Israel, and we can stop using weapons. But this doesn't mean we're going against our religion," he said.

Conference to focus on the process in 'peace process'

GREER FAY CASHMAN

THOSE debating the pros and cons of the peace process usually focus on the peace, but some 300 delegates from 25 countries coming to the International Development Organization Association (IAOD) conference in Eilat October 17-20 will be more concerned with the process.

Organization development is a relatively new profession, says Dr. Uri Gluskinos, who with Dubi Hadari will co-chair the conference. Gluskinos, founder of the Israel Association for Organization Development, says that organization and social psychologists are interested "in the process of change more than in the core of the organization."

Gluskinos is quick to point out that such changes have nothing to do with technology and equipment but with people themselves. Citing one of the earliest efforts in Israel, Gluskinos quotes the kibbutz movement, which in the late 1960s brought in Californian behavioral scientist Bob Tannenbaum to help the kibbutzniks deal with organizational change.

The IDOA decided in 1986 to hold its first international conference in Israel because there were so many Israeli consultants in the field. Today, says IDOA chairwoman Verda Silberberg, there are about 300 Israelis involved in organization development, and 200 of them are members in IDOA.

"It's a very sensitive profession," notes Silberberg, "as the consultant is exposed to a lot of the business and the personnel of the system."

Member countries of the IDOA in turn host international conferences. Israel is the first country to do so twice. "We decided to have it in Eilat," explains Gluskinos, "because Eilat is the meeting point of four countries. The name of the conference is 'Discourse Across Boundaries.'"

NEWS IN BRIEF

Palestinians threaten conference boycott

The Palestinians are threatening to boycott the regional economic conference in Amman at the end of the month if the IDF does not make a significant withdrawal from Palestinian cities by then.

Palestinian Authority sources said this was conveyed to Israel during the discussions over the past few days on IDF redeployment in the West Bank. Pinhas Inbari

Soldier tried for filming sex with girlfriend

Cpl. Eli Meiri went on trial yesterday in Jaffa Military Court on charges of violating the privacy of a woman soldier, for filming her without her permission as they had sex, then screening videotapes of the acts for his friends.

The charges state that he violated her privacy in this manner at the end of 1993 at his home in Holon, at his grandfather's home, and at his base.

He is also charged with destroying the tape to prevent it being used as evidence and with suborning a witness. Meiri's lawyers have asked for a recess to try moving the case to a civilian court. Itim

Yad Vashem conference under way

Twenty researchers from Israel, the US, and France are currently attending a three-day conference at Yad Vashem devoted to studies on the Jewish people at the conclusion of World War II.

The conference is organized by the International Center for Holocaust Studies, and the papers focus on the failed attempts by Jews to return en masse to their countries of birth after the war, the Yad Vashem spokesman said. Batsheva Tsor

PARADE

(Continued from Page 1)

delegation of one also represented Swaziland.

The French did it with a difference: Their delegation was led by a Dijon band wearing Napoleonic outfits that apparently cost more than their air tickets.

However, it was not the colorful clothes but the carnival floats which turned the parade into something Jerusalem has never seen before. The huge platforms carried different tributes to the city - a floral version of Moses Montefiore's carriage, smothered in 60,000 flowers; papier mache reconstructions of characters from Yossi Stern's paintings; and models of popular residents of the Biblical Zoo.

A float from Tel Aviv, which had a painting of Jerusalem

Beach and teenaged girls in tight shirts dancing to Israeli pop music, only served to emphasize the difference between the Holy City and the City that Never Stops.

The parade, planned as a modern version of the ancient foot pilgrimages to Jerusalem, attracted thousands of out-of-town visitors, but many local residents preferred to watch the fun on live television, scared off by warnings of traffic snarl-ups which never materialized.

Apart from the parade route, streets remained empty, leading Mayor Ehud Olmert to conclude: "Thousands obviously raced to shelters and waited for it to pass, but there is a wonderful, festive atmosphere. It is a great tribute to Jerusalem as the united capital."

Shohat gets no promises on US aid

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat told Israeli reporters yesterday that in their meeting on Capitol Hill, House Appropriations Committee chairman Robert Livingston made no promises that US aid to Israel will continue at its current level in either the next fiscal year (1997) or beyond.

Livingston, however, said on Tuesday that he believes US aid to Israel will continue at its current level at least through next year. Israel receives \$3 billion annually in economic and military assistance.

Livingston also told Shohat he preferred not saddling the Palestinian Authority with tough conditions for receiving US aid, currently \$100 million a year. That position mirrors the Israeli government's.

A joint Senate and House committee still must approve the \$12.3 billion foreign aid budget, which also contains the bill regulating US assistance to the PA. But Livingston reportedly told Shohat that, if a consensus vote is taken to approve the foreign aid budget, Israel might not have to wait much longer for its 1996 appropriation, even though Congress has not yet signed off on the overall federal budget.

Shohat also met yesterday with Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole. The two did not discuss Dole's bill that would move the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Shohat said.

The House International Relations Committee is expected to hold a hearing today on the Dole bill, which was co-sponsored in the House by Speaker Newt Gingrich.

To date, some 75 congressmen and 62 senators have signed onto the two bills, and House sources expect the hearing to spur higher co-sponsorship.

Shohat said he told both Livingston and Dole that despite the impressive growth of its economy, Israel remained in need of US assistance due to the risks and costs it was incurring as a result of the peace process, as well as the expenses of absorbing new

immigrants.

He is here to attend the annual meeting of the World Bank and was scheduled to address the plenary last night. He is due to meet China's finance minister today, and has already met here with his South Korean and Thai counterparts, part of what Shohat called Israel's deep interest in expanding commercial relations in East Asia.

Shohat also met yesterday with the leaders of Israel Bonds, the first meeting between a cabinet minister and a major American Jewish organization since Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin criticized those groups lobbying against his peace policies.

But Shohat said he foresaw no change in American Jewish fundraising for Israel as a consequence of Rabin's remarks.

Likud meeting in Efrat turns into election rally

LIAT COLLINS

OVER 1,500 Likud supporters gathered in Efrat yesterday to open a public information campaign on the need for a united Jerusalem and to mark solidarity with Gush Etzion as a safety belt for Jerusalem.

However, the rally had more of an election campaign flavor to it, and Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu shook as many hands as possible among his supporters.

While reveling in the cheers of "Here comes the next prime minister," Netanyahu condemned acts of violence and abuse against Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and members of his government,

announcing: "We'll win by the vote, not by violence."

MK Ron Nahman, Netanyahu's views notwithstanding, called on Likud supporters to heckle and boo Rabin and his cabinet wherever they go, as happened at The Event Tuesday and yesterday's Jerusalem march.

MK Ariel Sharon also met with a warm reception. His name was touted by supporters as the next defense minister.

Party observers noted that he was among those clapping as Netanyahu was announced as the next prime minister.

IMA urges reassessment of school medical services

JUDY SIEGEL

SCHOOL medical services, established in the state's early years to detect health problems in immigrant children from tent encampments, must be reassessed, according to the Israel Medical Association.

Today, principals tend to regard the school doctor or nurse as a "first aid service," even though they are usually not available when a pupil is hurt.

An editorial on the subject appears in the latest issue of the IMA's journal *Harefuah*.

It was written by Dr. Shmuel Gross, a senior pediatrician at the Schneider Children's Medical Center for Israel in Petah Tikva.

The services were initially established almost 50 years ago, when many immigrant children living in *ma'abarot* did not have access to a general practitioner.

Gradually, as most families joined a health fund, most school medical services became based on the work of school nurses, who gave immunizations, checked sight and hearing, lectured pupils on disease prevention, but mostly supplied bandages and Acanol.

Doctors visited from time to time to carry out routine medical checkups and detect conditions missed by family doctors, but in many schools, even this was abandoned.

A few years ago, the Health Ministry decided to privatize the

school medical service, with services provided by public and private interests under ministry supervision.

Parents have been required to pay for these services, even if they weren't adequate or desired. Fees were set by the Knesset Labor and Social Affairs Committee, which received growing complaints from parents that they weren't getting their money's worth.

As long as the service was provided by the ministry itself, it was high quality, and nurses were specially trained for the task, said the editorial.

"At the same time, the doctor - whose job became marginal - supplied obsolete services, even if they were of reasonable quality."

Gross notes that if the aim is dealing with school accidents or sudden illnesses, it would be more practical to train a few teachers in first aid.

The ministry knows only whether a certain service has been provided, but not its quality, Gross maintains.

The editorial recommends making the school doctor an integral part of the educational staff, advising pupils and teachers on medical problems and disease prevention instead of carrying out routine and superfluous examinations.

Hizbullah admits it gets indirect aid from Syria

DAVID RUDGE

HIZBULLAH leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah has publicly admitted that his organization is benefiting from indirect Syrian support, as well as direct assistance from Iran.

"Iran considers it to be its duty to offer assistance to the resistance. Syria does not offer financial help, but it does lend moral and political support," Nasrallah said in a recent interview with the Lebanese Broadcasting Corpora-

tion, the largest TV station in Lebanon, which is run by Maronite Christians.

Asked about Hizbullah's relations with Syria, he said: "They have been very good from the beginning."

"Syria provides protection and secures our freedom of movement and action. Financial and military support, however, come only from Iran," he said.

Assad: Lebanon leaders agree to extend Hrawi's term

BEIRUT (Reuters) - Lebanon's political leaders have agreed to extend pro-Syrian President Elias Hrawi's six-year term which expires next month, Syrian President Hafez Assad said in remarks published yesterday.

Syria's 35,000 troops in Lebanon make it the country's ultimate power broker.

Assad's remarks appeared to indicate that the thorny presidential issue has been resolved in favor of extending Hrawi's term rather than holding an election in November.

"In general, everybody was with the extension. All three, the president, parliament speaker [Nabih Berri] and prime minister [Rafik Hariri]," Assad told Egypt's *al-Ahram* newspaper in an interview printed simultaneously by the Beirut daily *al-Safir*.

Government sources in Beirut

say Syria prefers to stick with Hrawi as a known friend while it confronts serious regional problems and unfinished peace talks with Israel.

Opponents, particularly in the Christian minority who resent Syrian influence in Lebanon, see the proposal as a threat to democracy and say there are no exceptional circumstances that forbid holding regular presidential elections.

Assad met Hariri in Damascus this week and recently received Hrawi and Berri.

Under the constitution, Hrawi's term ends on November 23 and parliament must elect a successor. As incumbent, Hrawi is barred from seeking a second term but moves have been underway for months for parliament to change the constitution to permit him a one-off, three-year extension.

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Kollek to host reception for 200 Christian 'Davids'

GREER FAY CASHMAN

FORMER Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kolek will today host a reception at the International Convention Center Jerusalem at which the overwhelming majority of the guests will be people named David.

The reception, within the framework of the Christian Embassy's annual Feast of Tabernacles, was specially included as part of the Christian contribution to the Jerusalem 3000 activities.

Some 200 of the 4,600 pilgrims who had registered by noon yesterday were named David, said Johann Luckhoff, director of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem.

Asked whether the reception was limited only to Christian Davids, Luckhoff said that it was open to Jewish Davids as well.

The Feast of Tabernacles, inaugurated by the ICESJ in 1980, has brought tens of thousands of pilgrims to Jerusalem from almost every country in which there is a Christian population. Turning this year's turnout as "the largest in the last few years," Luckhoff estimated that the final figure would be in the vicinity of 5,000.

As for countries not previously represented, "it's very difficult to find a new country," said Luckhoff, "but this year we do have a couple of Jordanian pilgrims."

There are also pilgrims from more out of the way places, such as Kazakhstan and Nepal, but these locations have been represented before, he said.

One of the major activities of the International Christian Embassy is to fully or partially finance the travel of immigrants from the former Soviet Union to Israel. The Christian Embassy has helped 35,000 immigrants in

this way and has sponsored 50 flights to Israel.

Working in close cooperation with the Jewish Agency, it also helping to get Jews out of Bosnia and Serbia.

Chief Rabbi of Afula sentenced for fraud, bribe-taking and breach of trust

THE Nazareth District Court yesterday sentenced the chief rabbi of Afula to six months' community service, a two-year suspended sentence, and a NIS 150,000 fine for bribe-taking, fraud, and breach of trust.

Religious Council. During the dispute he moved his office to his home, where he provided religious services and collected fees for them instead of transferring the funds to the council.

how the money was spent.

He was also convicted of pocketing money given in return for issuing kashrut certificates to a number of Galilee kibbutzim.

Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau called on Zioni to step down after he was indicted. Zioni was elected Afula chief rabbi in 1975.

Judge Gideon Ginat was asked by the prosecutor to impose a jail sentence on Zioni, but said this would be inappropriate, citing a prosecution statement that the system was to blame for encouraging Zioni's misdeeds.

The judge noted that the Religious Affairs Ministry, the Chief

Rabbinate, and the Afula Religious Council were aware of what Zioni was doing at his home office and had in fact approved the arrangement.

He said these authorities had failed to monitor the rabbi's financial activities and had thereby set up a situation that was ripe for criminal violations. (Itim)

An OPEN LETTER to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin

Dear Prime Minister Rabin:

Despite your exhortations to keep any criticism of Israeli government policy "in the family," you have seen fit to conduct your dialogue with American Jewry through the offices of the front page of *The New York Times*, in the form of name calling and invective. I am writing this open letter to you in order to explain how a democratic system of government operates in America.

- American Jews have a right and a duty to express their views, especially if the policies of the government of Israel run contrary to their innermost beliefs.
- American Jews have a right and a duty to petition their elected officials against the giving of tax dollars to aid the PLO.
- American Jews have a right and a duty to speak out about the future of the Land of Israel, because the Land of Israel belongs to *all* of the Jewish people.

American Jews have earned their right to express their legitimate concerns, since many of their sons rush to volunteer to serve when Israel is in danger. The classic argument which you and your cabinet members have stated is that only those who risk their lives in military service are eligible to decide on Israel's future. But, the margin of victory in each Knesset vote on the "peace process" did not come from the parents of Israeli soldiers. It came from the *Arab members of Knesset WHO DO NOT SEND THEIR CHILDREN TO FIGHT TO PROTECT THE STATE OF ISRAEL.*

Why are they accorded the pivotal votes in deciding the fate of Israel? Are we to believe that *they* care more about the safety and future of the Jewish State than do American Jews who have demonstrated, donated and devoted themselves to Israel?

American Jews have a right to demand better treatment from the Prime Minister of the Jewish State. No prime minister, of either party, no matter what the provocation, has ever used such vindictive language as you have used, Mr. Prime Minister.

I respectfully ask you to stop your attacks on American Jews who disagree with your policies, and rather urge you to conduct a peaceful dialogue with them!

Respectfully,

Joseph Mermelstein

New York

Jewish cemetery desecrated near Bonn

BONN (Reuters) - A Jewish cemetery near Bonn was desecrated by unknown assailants who knocked over 10 tombstones, police said yesterday.

The damaged tombstones at the cemetery in Mondorf were discovered by neighbors on Tuesday evening. Police said there were no clues to the motive for the attack.

The incident was the latest in a series of attacks on Jewish cemeteries and monuments since German unification in 1990.

A Berlin memorial for Jews deported to the Nazi death camps was vandalized on Tuesday for the third time within a week.

Two of 16 plaster statues forming a temporary Holocaust memorial outside the German capital's disused Anhalt railway station were partly smashed on Tuesday. Six others had already been damaged in two attacks over the past week.

Vandals desecrated another Jewish cemetery in eastern Germany over the weekend by daubing the entrance with Nazi slogans and spraying a marble commemorative plaque with a swastika.

Finalists chosen in Bernstein conducting competition

SIX conductors, including an American and three Asians, were chosen as finalists yesterday in the first Leonard Bernstein Jerusalem International Conducting Competition.

They will compete today for grand prizes each worth \$25,000. More than one competitor can win. Out of 17 who reached the past week's semifinal, the jury chose American George Pehlivanian, Andrey Boreyko of Russia, Wen-pin Chien of Taiwan, Shuang Guo of China, Yutaka Sado of Japan and Britain's David Edward Wroe.

The competitors — who are known mainly in their home countries — are conducting the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra.

The 13 judges include representatives from orchestras sponsoring the event — including the Vienna and New York orchestras, the Israel Philharmonic, the Tanglewood Music Center and the London Symphony Orchestra. (AP)

Lease flak fails to down Juppe

PARIS (Reuters) - French Prime Minister Alain Juppe escaped prosecution yesterday over his personal apartment lease but a public prosecutor said he had broken a conflict of interest law and ordered him to move house.

The decision by Paris prosecutor Bruno Cotte spared Juppe from resignation but could further embarrass him politically at a time when his popularity has crashed and he is under fire from public sector trade unions demanding a pay rise.

In a report to the Justice Ministry, Cotte said the case against Juppe should be closed on condition that he gave a written undertaking to move out of his low-rent, City of Paris-owned apartment by the end of this year.

The prime minister said last week he planned to move soon. Cotte said Juppe did appear to have committed an offense by leasing the elegant 189 sq m Left Bank flat from the city in 1990 while he was assistant mayor for finance in charge of supervising rents, including his own.

"It appears the elements constituting the obtaining and maintenance of an illegal interest are sufficiently established so that...the penal responsibility of Mr. Alain Juppe is involved, since the statute of limitation does not apply," the prosecutor said in a statement.

"However under article 40 of the code of penal procedure, giving the state prosecutor the power to determine what legal action to take on the complaints and suits he receives, the Paris prosecutor...has decided to close this case conditionally."

"Mr. Alain Juppe has been notified by letter asking him, as he promised on October 6 1995, to put an end to this interest by leaving the premises in Rue Jacob before the end of 1995 and confirming in writing he has met this condition," it said.

'Bungle forced CIA closure in France'

LOS ANGELES (AP) - A botched spy mission in Paris forced the CIA to halt virtually all operations in France earlier this year, the Los Angeles Times reported yesterday.

It's not clear whether the spy agency has resumed normal operations in France, a country key to information-gathering efforts on terrorism, the Middle East and arms smuggling, the Times said, citing US sources.

The Times said the CIA was attempting last winter to find the strength of the French bargaining position in telecommunications trade talks when the French government discovered the operation.

The United States was opposed to French demands to restrict imports of US television programming into Europe.

Top officials at the CIA's headquarters in Langley, Virginia, ordered the agency's operations in France suspended because their effectiveness had been "severely impaired," the Times said.



Bosnian Army soldiers ride in the back of a lorry toward frontline positions. The Bosnian government and allied Croat forces captured two key towns in northwest Bosnia yesterday in a bid to gain more territory before a formal cease-fire can be declared.

Bosnian truce delayed while armies continue to fight

SARAJEVO (AP) - The Bosnian army claimed it drove Serbs from two strategic towns in the 48 hours gained by postponing a truce. Government officials said they hoped yesterday would be the last day of bloodshed.

Rebel Serb leaders accused the government of deliberately delaying the US-brokered truce to recapture territory before the warring parties sit down for peace talks - an assessment backed up by the United Nations.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said all the conditions for a truce had been met and there was "no reason to wait any longer."

"It's high time the Bosnian government and the Bosnian Serbs move quickly, decisively and directly to cease fire," he said.

Bosnian government minister Hasan Muratovic insisted the truce was postponed only because a key condition was not met: full restoration of electricity and natural gas to the capital, Sarajevo.

Muratovic said gas was up to full pressure yesterday morning and power supplies were expected to improve during the day, thus giving him hope the truce would start one minute after midnight.

"I hope that this is the last day of this war," Muratovic said.

Bosnia's prime minister said he expected the cease-fire to go into effect just after midnight, but until then, the Bosnian army would continue fighting.

"It's a legal army," he said in Frankfurt, Germany. "They will fight as long as there is no cease-fire."

Later, the government set a late afternoon deadline for Serbs to agree to the new starting time for the truce, or else it would be postponed for another 24 hours, UN spokesman Lt. Col. Chris Vernon said.

Yesterday Bosnian radio said government troops had taken the northwestern town of Sanski Most from rebel Serbs. In a statement, the Bosnian Serb military indicated the town had been abandoned, saying "Serb forces moved to more convenient tactical positions" after heavy shelling and casualties.

Red Cross officials reported up to 30,000 Serbs were fleeing the area.

Serbs also conceded they lost the nearby town of Mirkonje Grad, located on a key road considered by many as a natural border between areas controlled by Serbs, and by the Muslim-led government and its Croat allies.

Mirkonje Grad is just 40 km south of Banja Luka and is the largest Serb-held city.

Sanski Most is about the same distance west

of Banja Luka. It is symbolically important to the government because thousands of Muslims were expelled from the town during Bosnia's 3 1/2 years of war.

Serb leaders accused the government and Croats of colluding to push back the start of the cease-fire so they could press their offensives on Sanski Most and Mirkonje Grad.

"Muslims and Croats are buying another day for a very well-planned and horrid action which was carried out... in Mirkonje Grad and Sanski Most," Nikola Koljetic, a rebel leader told Bosnian Serb TV.

The Serb argument "can certainly be sustained by what is happening on the ground," said UN spokesman Lt. Col. Chris Vernon.

The cease-fire was to have taken effect Monday night but was postponed because Russia had not yet resumed gas deliveries to Sarajevo. The government proposed another delay so utilities could be fully restored.

UN spokesman Yuri Chizhik said, by last night, Sarajevo should receive the same amount of electricity generated in May before power was cut off.

In another violent pre-truce maneuver, thousands of non-Serbs were driven from towns in northern Bosnia in the last week, the United Nations and the Red Cross reported.

Hurricane races toward Mexico Gulf

CANCUN, Mexico (AP) - Hurricane Roxanne bashed the Caribbean resort island of Cozumel with 180 kph winds yesterday, then gradually lost strength as it plowed into the tropical lowlands of the Yucatan Peninsula.

But forecasters warned that the storm was expected to regain some of its punch later when it emerges on the west side of the peninsula and moves over the warm waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

"All interests in the southern and western Gulf of Mexico should monitor the progress of this hurricane," meteorologist Bill Frederick said from the US

National Hurricane Center in Miami.

A hurricane warning was issued yesterday for a large stretch of the Mexican Gulf coast.

The storm center hit the mainland near the famed Mayan ruins of Tulum and headed west at 14 kph across a flat, jungle terrain sparsely populated with Mayan villages. Winds had weakened to 75 mph.

Some 10,000 tourists had been evacuated from beachfront hotels in Cancun, a resort city near the peninsula's northeastern tip. But the storm roared by to the south, and buses were shuttling the tourists back.

Simpson cancels NBC interview

LOS ANGELES (AP) - O.J. Simpson canceled last night's live interview on NBC network anchor Tom Brokaw announced.

The interview would have been the first extensive interview since Simpson was acquitted of the murders of his ex-wife and her friend.

Brokaw went live on the air to announce the change, saying Simpson's lawyers decided they couldn't abide by the original agreement of the interview.

NBC had said it would conduct the interview only if it were done with no ground rules.

Simpson's lawyers didn't immediately return calls to The Associated Press.

Brokaw said Simpson's lawyers objected to the nature of the questions NBC was going to ask. Simpson faces wrongful-death lawsuits that limit what he can say.

Simpson, who declined to take the stand during his year-long trial, was to have been asked about evidence, domestic abuse and other key issues, NBC News

President Andy Lack said Tuesday.

The interview promised to be a ratings bonanza for the network. But it also drew criticism, scared off advertisers and forced other networks to change programming.

Brokaw and Katie Couric were to question Simpson as part of a three-hour *Dateline NBC* special on Simpson, his ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman. The live, one-hour interview, which was to run uninterrupted by commercials, would have been the centerpiece, airing live.

Since his acquittal last week in the slayings of Ms. Simpson and Goldman, Simpson has made few public comments. He spoke briefly by phone last week on CNN's *Larry King Live*.

A commentator on NBC's football coverage before his arrest, Simpson initially was said to be pursuing a lucrative pay TV interview but found major companies going on the record against such an enterprise.

'Ozone alarmists' win Nobel Prize

STOCKHOLM (AP) - Four Americans and a Dutch scientist won Nobel Prizes yesterday for sounding the alarm about depletion of Earth's protective ozone layer and discoveries about some of nature's tiniest particles.

The chemistry prize, for the ozone work, went to Mario Molina of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, F. Sherwood Rowland of the University of California-Irvine and Paul Crutzen, a Dutch citizen working at the Max-Planck Institute for Chemistry in Germany.

The physics prize went to Martin L. Perl of Stanford University and Frederick Reines of the University of California-Irvine. They discovered "two of nature's most remarkable subatomic particles," their citation from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said.

Although ozone is considered a pollutant at ground level, it protects the Earth from the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays at high altitudes.

"Thanks to our good scientific understanding of the ozone problem - and very largely to Crutzen, Molina and Rowland - it has been possible to make far-reaching decisions on prohibiting the release of gases that destroy ozone," said their citation.

"The three researchers have contributed to our salvation from a global environmental problem that could have catastrophic consequences," the academy said.

Molina and Rowland, working separately from Crutzen, reported in 1974 that chlorofluorocarbons - the CFC gases then used in spray cans, refrigerators and other items - threatened the ozone layer.

They calculated that if use of CFC gases continued without abatement, the ozone layer would become significantly depleted, the citation said.

Crutzen explained in 1970 how nitrogen oxides react with ozone to accelerate the reduction of the layer. "Crutzen took a fundamental step toward a deeper understanding of the chemistry of the ozone layer," the citation said.

The report from Molina and Rowland led to restrictions on CFC release during the late 1970s and early 1980s, the citation said.

Their research predicting an ozone "hole" laid the groundwork for its discovery in 1985 over the South Pole.

"Not until 1985, when the real shock came, was there any real urgency in international negotiations on release restrictions," the academy said.

As a result of the scientists' path-breaking discoveries, "the most dangerous gases will be totally banned from 1996," the citation said, adding that developing countries have been given a grace period.

Robert Birnbaum, dean of science at MIT, said the honor for Molina was "a great thing." Molina is a Mexican-born American.

Tories consider lowering taxes

BLACKPOOL (AP) - Cabinet ministers reel off rousing speeches, bash the European Union, tinker with burgeoning welfare costs, and recall World War II victories. But at this week's annual conference of the troubled British Conservative Party, rallying the activists with rhetoric is a tough business.

To many there's one big issue: lower taxes.

"It's something we've got to do, at least we've got to do it if we're looking at winning another election," delegate John Chides said yesterday.

In the convention center, party leaders hint at tax cuts - the promise which helped the Conservatives to a fourth successive election victory 3 1/2 years ago.

They failed to deliver, and this has been one factor in the consistently low popularity ratings of Prime Minister John Major's Conservative government.

In opinion polls, the Conservatives capture about 25 percent of public support and remain far behind the center-left opposition party, Labor, which has shed its high-taxing image in the eyes of many voters.

"The government should cut taxes next spring," said Brett Minkler, a young delegate from Paisley, Scotland. "If they leave it any later I think the electorate will see it as a bribe."

With national elections due by

May 1997, social security spending is the prime target for squeezing into tax cuts. It includes state pensions - now absorbing some 40 percent of the government's budget.

"Social security is setting the political agenda around the world," Social Security Secretary Peter Lilley said yesterday.

Lilley brought down left-wing governments on the (European) continent. It brought a conservative election landslide in the United States. It will play a crucial role in the next election in Britain," he said.

Delegates in the Winter Gardens conference center in this north England town cheered.

Lilley's new savings, however, consisted of cutting welfare benefits for the 40,000 people who seek political asylum each year and a nationwide project to pay post office clerks - who handle many welfare payments - 10 pounds (NIS 47) for each fraudulent spot.

Lilley put the total saving at 200 million pounds (NIS 942 million) on the 83 billion-pound (NIS 390 billion) welfare budget.

The Conservatives have cut income tax - the average rate is 25 percent, with 40 percent payable on income over 24,300 pounds (NIS 114,450) a year. But with sales and other taxes, overall taxation has risen to 37 percent, up 3 points since 1979.

First Hong Kong all-Chinese legislature sworn in

HONG KONG (AP) - Hong Kong's first fully elected, all-Chinese legislature was sworn in yesterday with a plea from Gov. Chris Patten to China to talk to the lawmakers instead of threatening to fire them.

Patten's appeal came in an address to the new legislature - the

last under colonial rule - in which he sought to assure the Chinese that he is not the troublemaker they take him for.

China detests Patten because he changed the election rules without its consent. Therefore, it says, the legislature will be dissolved on the July 1, 1997, handover day instead of serving its four-year term.

The threat reflects China's deep distrust of the Western-style democracy that has blossomed under Patten's rule, and casts a shadow over the historic and unprecedented transfer of sovereignty, just 629 days away.

Patten warned that dissolving the 60-member Legislative Council "would damage Hong Kong" and the prospect of a smooth transition to Chinese sovereignty.

China should "trust Hong Kong," he said, and "show that it does so by starting to talk to members of this council to all members of this council."

He was referring to Beijing's cold-shouldering of the Democrats, fierce critics of China, who won the most seats in the September 17 election.

Patten also warned that he would veto legislation if it was against Hong Kong's interests.

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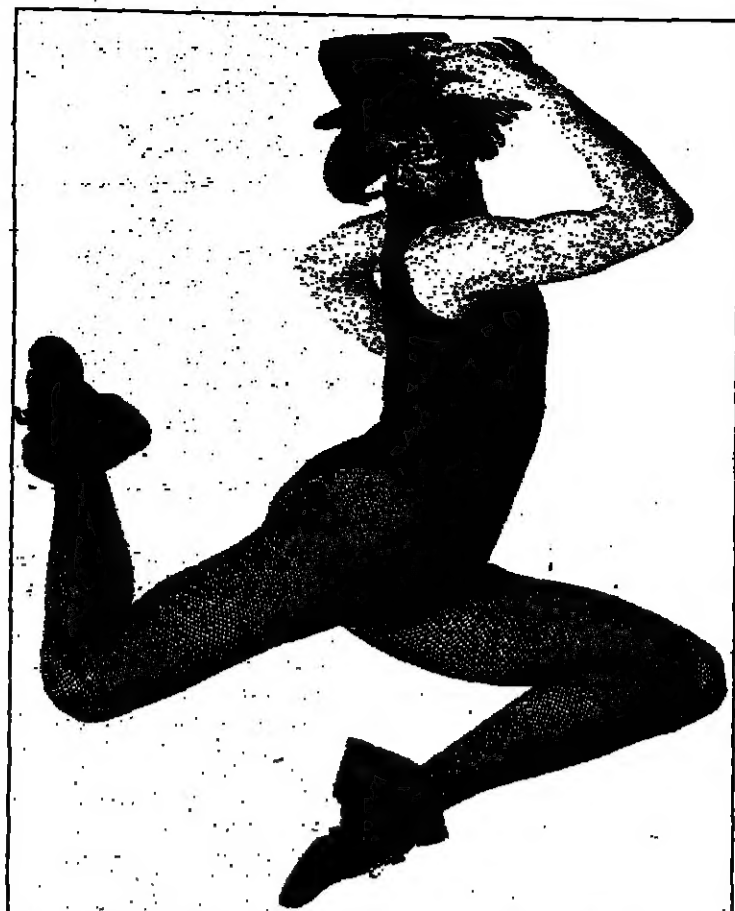
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Capezio's Dansneaker is the first active shoe made with the comfort of a sneaker and the performance of a dance shoe.

Beauty is only sole deep

FLAIR
GREER FAY CASHMAN

THESE boots were made for walking... goes the refrain of a popular song, but now Capezio, the world famous, New Jersey-based manufacturer of ballet shoes, has come up with one better — boots made for dancing.

Marketed under the trade name Dansneaker, the comfortable ankle boot can be used for every dance discipline other than tap dancing and flamenco.

Capezio claims that the Dansneaker is the first active shoe designed with the comfort of a sneaker and the performance of a dance shoe.

The designers seem to have thought of everything. A lightweight, reinforced heel into the toe not only offers protection for the front of the foot, but also allows both male and female dancers to perform moves on pointe, albeit with not quite the same grace as in pointe shoes which are esthetically more pleasing.

In fact, the only negative thing one can say about a Dansneaker is that it's not exactly beautiful. The padded ankle support collar looks a little too bulky, though it weighs practically nothing.

The collar comes up high on the front and the sides to give the ankle maximum support, then dips in the back to allow full extension of the foot when pointed.

There is a cushioned insole,

which, though flexible, acts as a shock absorber, plus a flexible arch support system. The stitched soles are durable and non-marking. Made of polyurethane, they are deliberately split and lightweight.

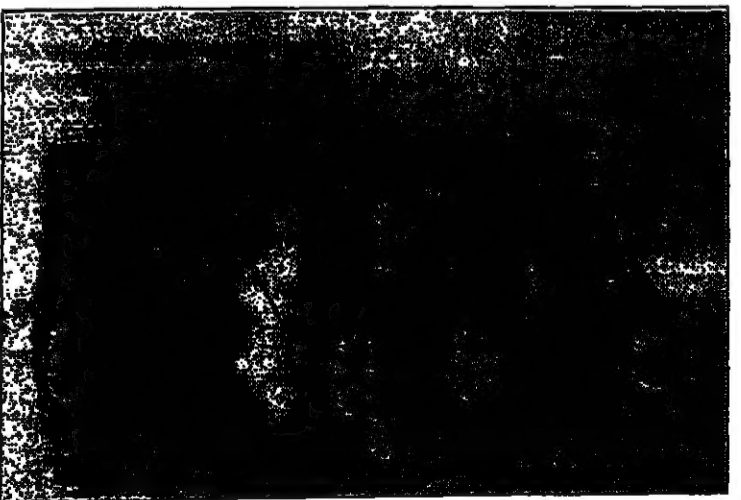
And it goes without saying that they're supremely comfortable. A Velcro strap allows for collar adjustment to suit the wearer.

A word of warning. Don't rely on standard conversion sizes. When trying on the Dansneaker, you'll discover that you need a boot between half and a full size larger than the size you usually buy.

Dansneakers are exclusively imported by Israeladance and distributed through the Israeladance chain of stores.

IT'S STILL A little early to be thinking of snow boots, but nearly all the boots in the Romika range — whether ankle-high, mid-calf or almost knee-length — are lined with artificial fur. Some also have drawstring tops and tractor soles. Here too, comfort overrides esthetics.

Some of the more elegant men's and women's boots being manufactured in Europe and the US have been imported by Brill, whose merchandise includes over 100 different styles. Although elevator soles seem to be on the way out, chunky heels still abound.



Brill's imported European merchandise includes over 100 differently styled shoes.

Taking the law into their own hands

Attorneys are cropping up all over the country with increasing speed, Ezra Olman reports

FOR better or worse, the legal profession is finding its ranks swelled. The Israel Bar Association expects a 100 percent rise in the number of lawyers admitted to practice this year.

The boom is mainly attributable to the formation of nonaccredited private law colleges. After three-and-a-half-years of school and an 18-month clerkship, the newest graduates are beginning to make a mark on the legal landscape. Nonaccredited schools have already added 470 new lawyers to the record crop of 1,600 students expected to pass the Bar exam by the end of the year.

The abundant crop of new attorneys is a result of the 1991 Knesset decision allowing the Bar Association to adopt Amendment 17, which permits the establishment of private, profit-making, nonacademic institutions.

The idea of allowing more attorneys was born of a problem that now seems hard to believe — a lawyer shortage. Particularly in the north, offices were hard-pressed to find salaried lawyers to add to their staffs.

In addition, the admissions process was seen as unusually cutthroat and unfair. An often-cited statistic pointed out that only one in eight applicants were offered spots in the three law schools which at that time had hegemony over the admissions process.

The only alternative, one reserved for

those with the means to afford the sizable tuition, was to study abroad, particularly in Britain. This practice continues today, but many attorneys do not consider this ideal for future law practice in Israel.

The accredited universities also have done their share in creating more lawyers; the number of law students has jumped 88 percent in the past five years while the student population as a whole has grown only 48 percent.

In addition, the country is seeing the addition of Haifa University's academically accredited students, who will soon graduate from the law program established four years ago by Supreme Court Justice Yitzhak Zamir. In December, the first graduate degrees will be handed out and the new school will join Bar-Ilan University, the Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University as the country's academically recognized law schools.

The increase in lawyers has already had an impact on job availability, says Yair Ben-David, general manager of the Bar

Association. "Where once you had eight or nine applicants for a job, there are 50 to 60 for the same position today," he says. "There's definitely saturation in the market now."

He points out, however, that all law-school graduates do not necessarily become practicing attorneys. Management, communications and social work are among the main professions which many law-degree holders opt for instead of the legal field, which today includes 14,000 lawyers.

As the number of lawyers increases, others may pursue these options.

"Just like anywhere else, the market here goes up and down," Ben-Yair says. "Lawyers are affected by it like everyone else." Despite the doubling of new lawyers in the past year, Moshe Behagion is not worried. Spokesman for the new Sha'arei Mishpat school in Hod Hasharon, he says he feels the numbers will not necessarily translate into more lawyers.

"Not everyone who passes the Bar

needs to practice law," he says. "I think it will be like what you see in Britain and the US, where you have lawyers in a wide range of subjects."

New students appear undaunted by the possibility of a lawyer glut as well. Sha'arei Mishpat boasts 380 students in its first two classes and does not anticipate having problems keeping up with its more established counterparts.

"Our students get the same treatment here as they would anywhere else," Behagion says. "We provide an answer for students who weren't accepted elsewhere."

Overall, the results of the increased opportunity have been mixed. Two schools have folded after preparing one class of students. But the trend is up. Currently, four nondegree schools exist for potential law students, and others are clamoring to gain recognition from the Justice Ministry. Established lawyers lodged vigorous protests over the new schools. Their main argument was summarized by one attorney based in the center of the country, who claimed that the new nonacademic schools would trivialize a law degree.

"Opening law schools will be no different than opening a school for manicures or pedicures," he claimed.

Proponents of the amendment accused opposing lawyers of behaving like members of a medieval guild, and suggested that they welcome healthy competition.

Flytraps: Plants that munch their lunch

IF Jimmy Northrop sounds a bit eccentric when he talks about Venus's flytraps, perhaps it comes from being surrounded by carnivorous plants all his life.

"I believe they came from outer space," says Northrop, who grows flytraps and other insect-eating plants by the thousand at his family nursery in rural Pender County, North Carolina.

"I know that sounds weird," Northrop says as he sticks a lighted cigarette into a flytrap's jaw-like leaf.

The leaf quickly snaps shut, evoking images of the man-eating Audrey II in the movie *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Venus's flytraps are native to the region surrounding the city of Wilmington — and nowhere else in the world, Northrop has capitalized on that fact. For 50 years, Venus's flytraps have been his livelihood.

Right after World War II, five-year-old Northrop fought off water moccasins and mosquitoes to help his father, William, collect the exotic plants in bogs and marshes alongside country roads near Hampstead.

They sold the flytraps along with watermelon and other produce out of the back of the family's 1938 Dodge pickup in Richmond and Washington D.C. Soon, they were selling them to collectors and botanists around the country.

Now 55, he still cultivates flytraps in six greenhouses at his distinctively named Northrop In-

sectivorous Plant Farm, located on a dirt road off US 17 in Hampstead.

His wife, Tinker, and son, James, also work in the business.

Northrop wholesales the plants to plant shops and researchers around the world. His newest market is in Germany, where some cancer specialists believe the plants could be helpful in the treatment of certain types of stomach cancers and other diseases.

Legendary for their extraordinary feeding habits — they prey on unsuspecting flies and other insects — the rootbound bug eaters grow wild in nutrient-poor marshes, ditches and bogs along the coastal border of the Carolinas.

"If they evolved, we'd find them in South America and other places," Northrop insists. "But you can only find them here. Why?"

He answers his own question with an apocryphal story.

"The flytraps grow near small lakes we call Carolina bays, which were created when meteorites hit the Earth and bounced back up," he said. When the space objects hit the ground, Northrop presumes, they left the flytraps behind.

While the scientific community doesn't accept that theory, there is no general agreement on the flytrap's ancestry.

"It's impossible to know," said Larry Mellichamp, an expert on carnivorous plants at the University of North Carolina at Char-



The Venus's flytrap's jawlike leaf evokes images of the man-eating plant in the play 'Little Shop of Horrors.'

lotte. "Some experts believe they may have come to North America when the continent broke

away from Africa. "Or they could have just evolved there and did not spread

very far," Mellichamp said.

There is one point about the Venus's flytrap upon which Mellichamp and Northrop can agree: "It's absolutely a unique plant in all the world," said Mellichamp, who has a collection of flytraps and other carnivorous plants.

The plants have captured the imagination of other scientists, including naturalist Charles Darwin, who called it "the most wonderful plant in the world."

Some experts are worried about the encroachment of civilization on the plant's natural habitat. Housing developments, highways and strip malls now stand where flytraps once flourished.

"The campus of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, used to be one of our prime hunting places," Northrop said.

He's not worried, though. The flytraps grow wild in several protected habitats, including the Green Swamp and the Holly Shelter Game Preserve.

They also can be found along highways and roads in the countryside around Wilmington.

The little plants also are easy to propagate in the greenhouse.

"I can grow 50 plants from the cuttings of one flytrap," Northrop said. "They grow like grass."

Unlike the bloodthirsty star of *Little Shop of Horrors*, the Venus's flytrap is actually very small, 10 centimeters tall or less.

"It would eat rats and small children if it got any bigger," Northrop joked.

Researchers asking: How stable is that pet owner in the window?

WITH up to 10 million unwanted dogs and cats euthanized in the US each year, researchers are trying to find out what makes an unsuccessful pet owner.

"What causes the breakdown in the human-animal bond? Psychological problems? Social problems? Mental stress?" asked Dr. Mo Salzman of the Colorado State University Veterinary School, who is coordinating the year-long study by the National Council on Pet Population Study and Policy.

"We hear stories like this: 'I work 10 hours a day, I'm single, I go home and the dog wants to play with me but I'm tired so we'd better put the dog in the pound,'" Salzman said.

There is the college student who adopts a kitten at the start of a semester and then gets rid of it

at semester break. There is the cute little German shepherd puppy that grows too big for a one-bedroom apartment.

And so the sad euthanasia sessions go on routinely at thousands of animal shelters across the nation, the dead pups and kittens, the older dogs and cats, all carefully stacked in still rows for final disposal by cremation or in landfills. The annual cost runs to \$125 million or more.

"By my observations, some people take these animals almost like they would buy a piece of furniture... and in the end, like a chair, replace it with another" when its first charm wears off, Salzman said.

THE study, which will cost at least \$200,000, will be finished by next March. Results should be available in July 1996.

Carol Moulton, council president and associate director of the American Humane Association's animal protection division based in Englewood, Colorado, said the study will:

- survey selected animal shelters to determine how many animals enter the shelters and how many of them are adopted or euthanized;
- establish the number of animals euthanized annually. Numbers today range from 5 million to 10 million. Cost estimates for euthanasia range from \$25-\$45 per animal.
- interview people at the shelters as they turn in their animals to try to learn what makes an unsuccessful pet relationship.

"Traditionally, it's been looked at as an animal problem — they shed too much, bark too much, are not housebroken and

are too much trouble. But you know people who have pets that do some or all of those and they would never consider giving up their pets," Moulton said.

Interviewers at the study shelters will attempt to put 58 questions to people dropping off their pets.

A similar questionnaire will be mailed to 80,000 pet owners in hopes of assembling a profile of people who keep their pets.

Salzman hopes to develop a questionnaire for potential pet owners to determine whether they are likely to give up their pets later.

Salzman said pet suppliers could look at the completed questionnaire and possibly tell a prospective pet buyer: "We identify you as a high-risk owner of a pet. Therefore, you have to satisfy the following criteria or you cannot

have the pet."

He made an analogy with blood donors:

"In the 1980s, anybody could donate blood. Currently, when you try to donate blood, they will ask you certain questions and then may classify you as a high risk in transmitting certain pathogenic agents... and they will say 'Sorry, we can't accept your blood.'"

Just what intervention methods would be employed for pets has not been determined, he said.

Salzman said he hopes the study's findings will educate people about their obligation to their pets. "It is all part of the family value, how we are raised and live in the family group," Salzman said. "The more we break these ties, the more we break our bond with the animals. It is the same thing." (AP)

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Verbal violence

WHEN President Ezer Weizman speaks, he has not only the moral force of his office behind him, but the personal credibility he has acquired in a lifetime of straightforwardness. And when he inveighs, as he did yesterday, against "verbal and physical attacks against the prime minister and other ministers," it is easy to agree with him. Verbal violence, yelling "traitor" and "murderer" at leaders of the government, is ugly, despicable, and revolting regardless of the source. And physical assault on leaders is utterly unacceptable and should be severely punished.

But it is precisely because his words carry so much weight that Weizman must be careful not to be swept by fashionable generalizations and misleading news reports. What prompted him to say yesterday that, "This is a blot on Israeli democracy," and "There are forces in Israel that can put an end to such attacks and should do so," was the rowdy behavior of anti-Rabin demonstrators at The Event, the Anglo-Saxon gathering at the Wingate Institute.

Indeed, the few hundred jeering demonstrators were rowdy, uncivil, and an embarrassment to the organizers. Not that they had no right to protest. The circumstances may have been apolitical, but the times are so political that no venue can be off-limits to protesters. Yet venting rage at government policies for a few minutes is one thing; making it virtually impossible for the elected prime minister of Israel to be heard is quite another.

The shameful incident recalled the unconscionable yelling that prevented Weizman from speaking to the crowd gathered at the site of the Jerusalem bus bombing in August, or the jeering by Vietnam protesters which made it impossible for then-US president Lyndon Johnson to speak in public in the last months of his tenure.

But it must be noted that not one shout of "traitor," "murderer," or any other violent epithets could be heard. The yelling was confined to legitimate heckling - "Go home," "Resign." The people have not signed - and just plain booing.

Nor was there any attempt to attack Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin physically. The one man who rushed towards Rabin as he entered the grounds was played up in all the media, but he did not seem violent. He was carried off by one of the bodyguards and was not detained.

Speaking to reporters, Rabin called the demonstrators "Kahanists, racists, and a blot on the Jewish people." That he was furious with the crowd was neither surprising nor unjustified. But it is plainly untrue that those who so lustily yelled against him were racist hooligans. Unlike

the Kach activists who exploit street demonstrations to display their capacity for scurrility, exhibitionism, and violence, the Wingate protesters were mostly family men and women with children, from all English-speaking countries, who said they were protesting not only Rabin's policies, but his own invective.

Some specifically cited the tongue-lashing Rabin administered to American Jews on his recent Washington visit. Others pointed to what they considered the greatest insult they had endured by the government: "being told to go back where we came from." This ultimate verbal slap, traditionally used by bigots against immigrants in America, was once flung not by Rabin, but "by his Foreign Minister Shimon Peres," as one protester put it, against a woman immigrant from the US who happens to be a Holocaust survivor.

Clearly, the unprecedented invective used against American Jews in the US and Israel from English-speaking countries, particularly those living beyond the Green Line, has hit home much more effectively than expected. And neither Rabin nor Peres seem to realize that even moderate elements in the Anglo-Saxon community feel offended by it.

Nor do Rabin and his ministers seem particularly disturbed by the reaction to this invective. According to Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish, they actually welcome it. "The Likud is to blame for extreme right-wing outbursts against Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the Likud will pay a heavy electoral price for this," he maintained yesterday. And as if to prove that he can escalate the invective with the best of them, he added, "We are facing fascism."

Labor clearly hopes, not unreasonably, that unruly, boorish protest, particularly if it deteriorates into real violence, will produce a backlash against the whole opposition, most specifically the Likud's candidate for the premiership, Binjamin Netanyahu.

It is something the protesters at Wingate who made Rabin appear like a righteous victim of a jeering mob should contemplate. But mostly it is Weizman who should realize that the issue transcends the problem of hooliganism. Uncontrolled tensions between rival camps, exacerbated by irresponsible pronouncements by leaders, can only harm national cohesion and unity. It is Weizman's duty as president to condemn the folly of all forms of verbal violence, whether emanating from below or above. Unless the language of the debate in this election year comes under control soon, the consequences to the national fabric will be dire indeed.

OPINION



Fruits of appeasement

THERE was an outcry of joy in France last week when "master" bomber Khaled Kelkal was shot dead by a crack unit of an anti-terrorist squad. He had tried to derail a fast train near Lyons on August 26, and was responsible for other terrorist attacks too.

Optimism that terrorism had been curbed was short-lived. Within days, a homemade bomb exploded at a metro station, lightly wounding 12 passersby. In similar attacks recently, seven people were killed and 130 wounded. The proud boast that France got out of Algeria is countered by the reality that Algeria hasn't got out of France. It was underlined by an "official communiqué" issued in Cairo and London by the Algerian GIA terrorist movement accepting responsibility for the French bomb attacks.

The attacks will continue until France stops supporting the present Algerian government fighting for survival against an Iranian-controlled uprising. We were told by an intelligence source that 30-year-old, Jamal Zeitouni, who won his spurs as a guerrilla fighter in Afghanistan, is now playing a major role in Algeria. Zeitouni now works directly under Iranian Special Actions Minister of State Ali Fallahian, who heads his country's international terrorist campaign.

Operating through various branches of the Teheran-directed international terror organization like Hamas, Hizbullah, and the Algerian GIA, both men are also responsible for the current wave of terror attacks in Egypt and the US. In New York, Egyptian cleric Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman and his band of operatives, also Fallahian puppets, were recently found guilty of plotting to blow up the World Trade Center and the UN.

In the West, only the US is taking the Iranian threat seriously. Repeatedly Washington calls upon Europe to isolate Iran, but its pleas have fallen on deaf ears. In an effort to appease Teheran, former French president Francois Mitterrand "rescheduled" a \$700 million debt, hoping to assure France's favored status as Iran's bazaar partner, and ensure that the mullahs desist from terrorist acts in France. It didn't work.

Mitterrand's successor, Jacques Chirac, is now reaping appeasement's bitter fruits. The full-scale terrorist war in France will go on.

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

says Zeitouni, until Algeria becomes a fundamentalist Islamic state. Paris cannot allow this, since it would ignite fundamentalism in France, home to between two and three million Moslems from North Africa.

Small wonder, then, that there have been calls throughout France for Charles Pasqua, tough Minister of the interior in the last administration, to be recalled. Pasqua arrested and exiled hundreds of suspected terrorists in a determined bid to crush terrorism.

THIS MAY sound remote to Israelis. But they would be wise to heed what is happening in France.

Prime Minister Rabin is well

Israelis would do well to draw conclusions from France's handling of the Iranian-inspired terrorist threat

aware of the danger of Iranian-directed terror destabilizing both the Middle East and Western countries. He has repeatedly asked the world community to take active steps against Iran, but only the US views the situation as gravely as he does. Rabin knows from his intelligence services that captured Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorists have detailed their indoctrination and training by Iranian instructors in camps near Teheran.

Incidentally, these same terrorists, deeply committed as ever to fighting for pure Islam, are among prisoners being released by the Israeli authorities as a result of the Oslo 2 agreement. Neither Rabin nor Mitterrand learned the lesson that "after paying you Danegeld, you are still left with the Dane."

Both men were blinded by their illusions that appeasement pays rich dividends. "Trust Arafat to fight terrorism, get the world to swell his coffers with gold and he will curb Hamas," is the credo of Rabin and Peres.

Actions speak louder than imagined "concepts." Last week it was revealed that Arafat had arrested

Skewed vision

NORMAN LAMM

LATVIAN Jewry suffered horribly during the Holocaust, the Latvians outdoing even the Nazis in their bestiality. Only one of the 18 major synagogues and 43 shetlechts and small congregations of the prewar years remains.

Survivors are trying desperately to rebuild Jewish life out of the dying embers of what once was a proud, thriving, dynamic community. In this they are supported by the SHAMIR organization, ably represented by Prof. Reuven Ferber of the Latvian University and Prof. Herman Bransover of Ben-Gurion University.

Why don't they simply come to Israel?

A two-day conference on "Jews in a Changing World," held recently in the capital of Riga, pointed in the direction of an answer, raising many warning signals about Israel-Diaspora relations.

Sponsored by the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture and initiated by Latvia's Chief Rabbi Natan Baraban, this was the first post-USSR international conference of Jewish academics from the

Why Latvian Jews are wary of bringing their children here

CIS and Baltic states to discuss Jewish problems in the region openly. Regional media coverage was wide.

It was impressive to hear participants, who included distinguished non-Jewish academics as well as the Latvian premier, wrestle with the dilemma of Eastern Europe Jewry: cultural integration versus national identity.

One speaker, a man who appeared to be in his late 60s, asked: How can local Jews just pick up and go to Israel, abandoning the community of their fathers and forefathers? The emotion was sincere and authentic.

The answer is obvious: It is the same logic that kept Jews in Latvia (and elsewhere) in the first place.

The death in the Holocaust of 80 percent of Latvia's Jewish population is sober refutation of such misplaced sentiment. Yet somehow, the message of the rebirth of Israel has not, after almost 50 years of statehood, reached this very intelligent but confused man.

PARTICIPANTS concerned with the Jewish survival of their children and grandchildren seemed to understand the importance of Jewish education.

So why not bring the youngsters to Israel, where they can thrive in a "normal" Jewish environment?

This evoked a disturbing question: What guarantee is there that my children will grow up Jewish in a country where Canaanism is on the rise and education in Judaism on the wane?

Latvian Jews have met many Israelis who inspire them. They are especially fond of Tova Herzl, Israel's ambassador in Riga. But they are frightened by Israelis who seem to be devoid of any Jewishness.

Jews in Riga are in touch with what is going on. They know about the erosion of Jewish awareness among young Israelis, about the split between "Judaism" and "Israelism," and they are spooked by the specter of deracination that emerges from the miasma of Meretz proclamations. They are fearful of America's cultural influence on Israel. "If we want a decadent American culture, we can go to America," they say.

Emotions such as these threaten to grow in importance as polarization within Israel intensifies.

Our political leaders are too preoccupied to pay attention to such matters. Moreover, they may be part of the problem. But somehow, must take the lead in reversing this cultural decline and assimilation in the skewed values of mindless Americanism.

Israel and world Jewry alike owe it to themselves, as well as to the struggling remnants of once-proud Jewish communities in countries only recently independent, to resurrect and revitalize the grand vision of Israel as a center of Jewish culture and spiritual inspiration.

It won't be easy - but nothing of value was ever achieved without a struggle. Le'fom tza'ara agra, as the Mishna taught, Or, as the saying goes: "No pain, no gain."

The writer is the president of Yeshiva University.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CHILDREN AT DEMONSTRATIONS

Sir, - Meir Ronnen's September 15 cartoon depicts the potential trauma facing children who witness the overly aggressive and often violent response of the Israeli police and military in opposition to right-wing demonstrations and protest activities.

Now then, I might have fully agreed with and supported Mr. Ronnen's view, a view which I believe the events of the last several months forcibly justify, if it weren't for a vivid image from the debacle at a recent demonstration in Jerusalem.

En route to the prime minister's residence, the designated site of that evening's demonstration, I quite accidentally found myself walking alongside a group of some 20 bar-mitzva age Bnei Akiva boys who, in addition to chanting the refrain Medinat mishara ("police state"), were intentionally creating obstacles at various intersections along the way and as far back as a kilometer or so from Mr. Rabin's Jerusalem home.

It struck me that these kids probably had neither the foggiest idea of what a police state is nor the ability to cogently express an opinion of what either the long- or short-term effects of Oslo 2 will be.

Question: What in blazes, then, were they doing there? Answer: Having fun.

Mr. Ronnen misses the point. Children, we all agree, are entitled to be treated respectfully; using them to merely fatten up what would otherwise be a woefully skimpy and unimpressive crowd is nothing less than exploitive and abusive. Indeed, heedlessly subjecting emotionally immature youngsters to the ugly

sight of seeing their parents dragged and shoved around, thrown viciously to the ground and callously man-handled serves no purpose and may in fact bring about considerable confusion and insecurity which, as Mr. Ronnen hinted at, may prove difficult to cope with. These kids, who very likely were looking for nothing more than an opportunity not to do their homework, had no reason whatsoever for being there.

Certainly Mr. Ronnen and all others who enthusiastically advocate bringing children to these demonstrations are aware that protest and civil disobedience are serious matters and should be practiced only by those mature enough to understand what the whole business is all about, especially when nasty and unpleasant by-products are expected. I saw those kids in action, and what I saw most definitely did not like.

Playing cat-and-mouse with the police, pretending to defy and ignore the forceful stream of blue-dyed water shooting out of that miserable water cannon, struggling to get in front of the television cameras for a minute or two - sorry, but this was not the behavior of a committed opposition concerned with the security of our country and sincere about expressing their disagreement and disapproval with the policies Mr. Rabin and his government are adopting. This was, rather, the behavior of a group of schoolboys looking to have a good time.

BARRY NEWMAN

Givat Shmiron.

Meir Ronnen comments: Mr. Newman has completely misread my cartoon, which was intended as a criticism of exposing small children to a traumatic experience.

THE CORE OF THE MATTER

Sir, - The irritating absence of the US ambassador from the opening ceremony of the Jerusalem 3000 celebrations is most probably due to a directive received from the State Department. This incident, combined with the European Community's boycott of the event, is the symptom of a chronic and deep rift between Israel and the Western countries which are unwavering in their stand that the city is "Israeli-occupied territory" captured in 1967. This applies not only to East Jerusalem, but also to West Jerusalem, as Mayor Olmert pointed out in his recent TV appearance. The negotiation of our sovereignty over Jerusalem has been and still is explicit. This is the core of the matter.

We have failed to convince world public opinion that the 1967 war was defensive and not aggressive, and that consequently territory seized cannot be termed "occupied." Although the point has been often mentioned in our publications, it has never been effectively driven home via a systematic global campaign as required.

Our swift victory achieved in six days naturally smacks of aggression. But what counts is who, unprovoked, fired the first volley. One key figure whose name is seldom mentioned in this context is Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, the commander of the UN supervisory organization. He has publicly confirmed that on the morning of June 5, 1967, he passed on to King Hussein premier Eshkol's warning to stay out of the battle. The king did not heed the warning and shortly thereafter, the Jordanian Legion opened fire. In the rapid pace of subsequent events, such significant facts sink into oblivion. But it is only by marshaling an array of such facts that we can win the battle over the status of the city, a battle which is gathering momentum as we approach the decisive date: May 1996, when Jerusalem will be finally placed on the agenda. Then, whether we like it or not, parroting the cliché "our eternal capital" will not be enough to prove the righteousness of our cause.

ELIJAHU TAL
Tel Aviv.

ISRAELI CITIZENSHIP

Sir, - How astounded I was to learn that Antony Lorraine had been refused Israeli citizenship. When he lived in England, he was one of the main activists in the campaign for Ron Arad and MIAs, as well as Syrian Jewry. Unlike many people his age, Antony spent his leisure time fighting for worthy Jewish causes. Due to such devotion, Ron Arad became a name known to all.

YEHOANAN LECI
Edgware, Middx.

Amm Atwa Moussa, who according to Egyptian newspaper reports is believed to be 150 years old, is bathed by one of his 39 grandchildren. He lived with his first wife for 60 years and later married four more times, fathering seven children. He recalls his family escaping so they would not be forced to work on the Suez Canal in 1859.

הכדמות האלה

Expect change if you join the family business

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM

Dear Ruthie,
When I got married many years ago, I was already settled professionally. My in-laws then owned - and still own - a factory. A couple of months ago, I left my job. My in-laws have not offered me a place in their factory, although my field of expertise is perfectly suitable.

Should I assume they do not want me working for them, or should I swallow my pride and ask them to hire me?
Self-Conscious Son-In-Law
Somewhere in Israel

Dear Self-Conscious,
That all depends on how seriously it will affect family relations in the event that they refuse. Or in the event that they don't. The fact that they did not offer you a position does not necessarily indicate that they aren't interested, however.

It could be that they are being tactful. It doesn't take great genius or insight to be aware of the problems involved in turning in-laws into employees.

If, given the nature of the current relations between you and your spouse's parents, you feel ready to undertake an alteration of the status quo by working for them, then by all means start swallowing. And then hit them with your resume.

Dear Ruthie,
I think my grandson is gay. Now, I'm not saying that I would be happy about it, but it certainly wouldn't change the way I feel about him. It wouldn't even alter my high opinion of his character.

What bothers me is that I suspect that the rest of the family is keeping this a secret from me. If so, I will be very hurt. How can I find out the truth? And, if I am right, how should I express my hurt?
Overwhelmed Grandmother
Somewhere in Israel

Dear GG:
I am often amazed at the consistency with which young people regard their elders as a bunch of

stuffy fuddy-duddies. White hair seems to be inadvertently interpreted as "purity" (as in "virginal white").

Whether your grandson is gay or not, keeping secrets of this sort is a statement about how your family views you. Ask yourself whether you have contributed to this misconception in some way. And then come out and ask your grandson directly.

If you are right about the cover-up, your best revenge would be to wow your family with some lurid detail of your own life - past or present. If you are wrong, then try working on your paranoia instead.

Dear Ruthie,
My husband and I are about to build a house. All of our friends have horror stories to tell about the stress involved in selecting building materials and keeping an eye on incompetent contractors. Do you have any helpful hints about how we can avoid endangering our marriage before we set out on this venture?
Cautious Couple
Mevaseret

Dear Cautious,
Any marriage which fails as a result of bricks and tiles was on the rocks to begin with.

In your case, the fact that you are aware enough of the pitfalls of "plaster pressure" to seek advice is already an indication that your marriage is probably safe. Nevertheless, here are some helpful hints: make a conscious decision to view the process as a whole with a sense of humor. If other couples have lived through it to tell their horror stories, you will too.

You could even keep a diary of mishaps to use as a conversation piece at your housewarming party.

Letters should be addressed to: "Dear Ruthie," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

Young Israelis who can't join the army find other ways to serve their country Judith Sudilovsky reports

THE year before Dina Peleg was to be drafted into the army was a difficult one for the Haifa native, who was devoted to her country but opposed to the military.

"It was a very long year while I decided what I should do. I wavered back and forth about whether I should go to the army or not. Finally, I decided I couldn't go," 20-year-old Peleg said, "[though] I did want to contribute something to society."

Then she found out about Shlomit, a nonprofit organization founded last year to provide National Service opportunities to young people like Peleg. It is the brainchild of Aliza Ofer, general manager of the nonprofit home nursing organization Matav, and Ami Bergman, chairman of the World Joint Distribution Committee.

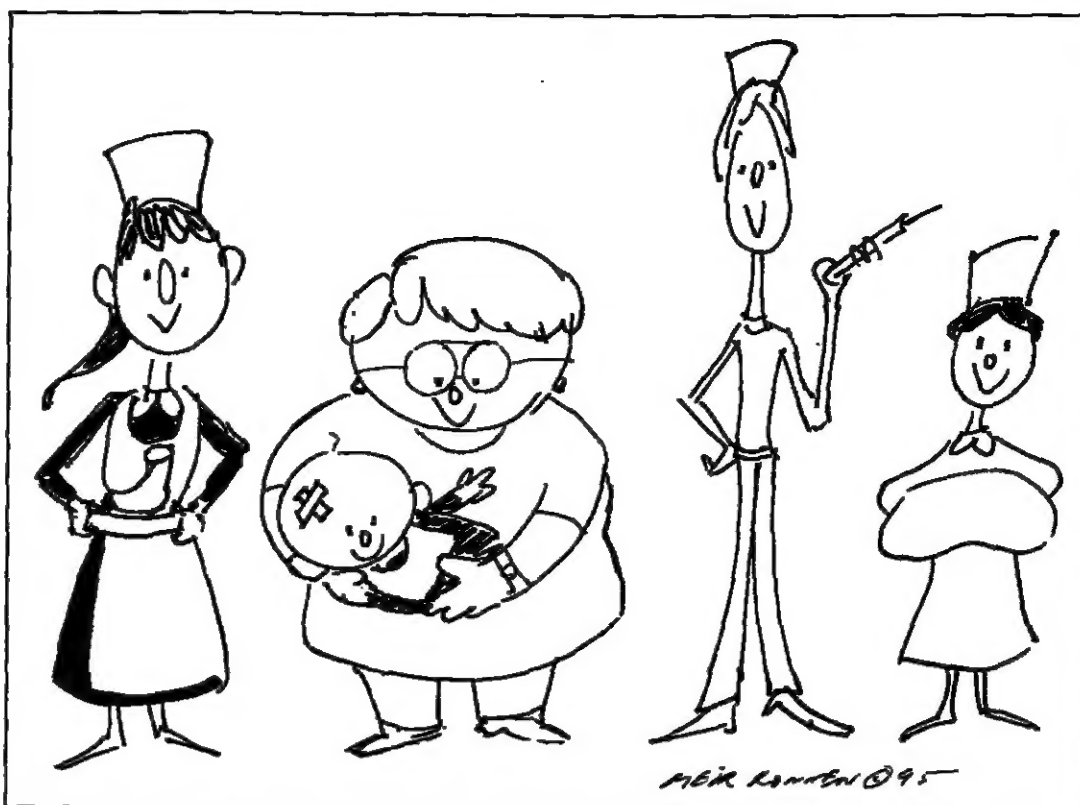
Last year Shlomit had about 30 volunteers; this year there are over 100, Shlomit general manager Haya Shmuel said.

Through Shlomit, Peleg was assigned to work part-time with the infants at a battered women's shelter and part-time at the Parent-Child Meeting Center in Haifa where divorced and separated parents have court-ordered meetings with their children.

"It was very hard work emotionally, but it gave me a sense of satisfaction. I felt like I was doing something important. If I had gone to the army, I would have felt like I was wasting my time," said Peleg, who will begin studying improvisational theater in Jerusalem this year.

THE ARMY has raised the criteria of acceptance for women because of the abundance of manpower available now, Shmuel said. Therefore women who would have been accepted several years ago are not being drafted.

"But these are girls who could



serve and want to volunteer for a year or two before they continue with their lives," Shmuel said.

In addition to the conscientious objectors, many of the Shlomit volunteers are women who have been exempted from the army for health reasons such as being overweight or underweight, or having diabetes, childhood cancer, cystic fibrosis, or dietary problems which the army can't or won't adjust itself to. Shlomit also accepts men who have been exempted from army service for health reasons. (Men can not receive exemptions as conscientious objectors.)

When 18-year-old Shlomit volunteer Tali Katz responded to her call-up notice the draft board gave her six months to lose at least 15 kilos. She didn't lose any weight and they gave her a few more months.

"I don't see myself losing the weight by December either," Katz said matter-of-factly. "But even if I went into the army, I don't know where they would stick me. I don't want to do just any old menial job. At least I know the work I am doing through National Service is important and I get satisfaction from it."

Katz is now a first-aid instructor and medic at Magen David Adom in Petah Tikva. Had she been in the army she would have

never been able to be an instructor for medics, she said.

FIVE YOUNG Arab women are also doing National Service through Shlomit.

Rodanya Naima, 20, an Israeli Arab who completed her service as a medic with MDA in Haifa in April, said that for her it was important that she get the same benefits Jewish Israelis receive when they complete the army, benefits such as National Insurance, a stipend for studies, and mortgage assistance. National Service volunteers receive the same benefits as demobilized soldiers.

"I want to do a lot, but with my Arab name it is hard. I deserve the same rights as all Israelis," said Naima, who is studying accounting at Haifa University. "One reason I decided to do National Service is so that it will be easier to get a job [when I show my certificate of completion], but I also want to feel like I am a part of Israel and not just someone standing on the outside. I receive things from the country and I think that I should also give."

Her friends were curious about what she was doing, but nobody criticized her, she said, and, in fact, a few friends decided to do National Service through Shlomit as well. It is a good way of integrating into society, Naima said.

She said she believes that Israeli Arabs should be given the opportunity to volunteer so that slowly they will see that they too are an integral part of the country and can contribute to society as well.

SHMUEL AND a social worker interview potential volunteers. They must prove themselves to be serious about their desire to volunteer and mature enough to follow through with their assignment. If they have been exempted from army service for medical reasons, Shmuel consults with their doctor to determine whether they physically can do the work which will be required of them.

"I will not accept a volunteer without an exemption from the army so I know why they weren't accepted," Shmuel said. "Some girls come here saying they don't know whether to do National Service or the army. I tell them to go to the army."

"I have nothing against religious National Service," she added. "I respect that they don't want their girls with male soldiers, but I won't go to a secular school and tell them to come here instead of the army."

However, Shlomit was started in response to the 1993 Comptroller's Report which criticized the way some of the religious Na-

tional Service organizations were run, such as placing girls in private institutions and thereby providing them with cheap labor.

Reading the Comptroller's Report helped Shlomit learn what not to do, Shmuel said.

Until about two years ago, the National Organization for Volunteers, which is loosely affiliated with the National Religious Party, had a monopoly on National Service and it was difficult for other groups to get off the ground, said Ezra Jano, director general of the Department of Volunteer Services of the Ministry of Labor and Welfare.

Then the system was changed and now there are seven National Service volunteer groups, including Shlomit.

All those who are willing to volunteer must be welcomed with open arms and appreciated," Jano said. "Why should these good and capable people who can contribute to society be prevented from doing so? Of course, there is a place for National Service also within the secular community."

Unlike other National Service organizations, Shlomit is not affiliated with any political party, she added.

Volunteers work in hospitals, day-care centers for the elderly, special-education classes and battered women's shelters. The largest group works with MDA. They are scattered everywhere from Eilat, Beersheba and Tel Aviv to Acre, Karmiel and Nahariya.

The first group of volunteers received certificates of completion in an award ceremony on September 11.

Almost half of this year's volunteers are religious girls who preferred to do their service through Shlomit rather than through a religious group because of the strict control the other groups maintain over dress and conduct, noted Shmuel.

Michal Avrahamy, 18, started her National Service as a medic at MDA in Jerusalem with a religious organization, but when they informed her that wearing pants to work was unacceptable, she applied to Shlomit and continued her service through them.

"I keep kosher and observe the Sabbath, but at work I wear pants," she said, sitting in the medics' room after her shift at MDA.

"I don't miss the Torah and religion lessons we had with the other organization. If I want to study Torah, I have places and people I can turn to on my own."

Suggestions for a quick change of a fast flat

FIX IT YOURSELF

TAL KATZ

IF your kids are like mine, they are virtually immobile without wheels. Here are instructions for mending a flat bicycle tire and living to tell the tale. (Let's not forget the additional benefit of impressing the hell out of your family.)

Materials required: bicycle pump (mashevet ofanayim) - selling for about NIS 10 to NIS 15 at bike repair stores; valve key (mafeah ventil) - to be purchased for a few shekels at puncture repair garages (puncheria or puncher macher) and sometimes it includes extra valves; set of patches (petchim) and puncture glue - costing NIS 5 to NIS 10 at bike repair shops (the patches are either circular or in a sheet that can be cut to the desired size); small sheet of 0-grain (super fine) sandpaper (niyar zechuchit); ball-point pen; 2 tablespoons; a bucket of water; towel or cloth.

Some hardware stores carry "bicycle repair kits" (erka leilkan ofanayim) which include valves, glue and patches for about NIS 30 to NIS 35.

There are two possible causes for flat tires: a leaking valve or a punctured inner tube (pinitil). Gradual tire air loss usually indicates a valve problem. A fast flat usually points to a punctured tube.

Directions

Stand the bike on its seat with the wheels in the air. Attach the pump to the valve on the wheel. Pump the tire until it is hard to the touch. Apply some of your saliva to the tip of the valve. If a slight bubble appears, this means that air is leaking from the valve and that its core probably needs replacing. If not, there's a puncture in the inner tube.

The wheel consists of a metal frame with a concave track, a flexible rubber tube resting in the track, and a tire of hard rubber

covering the tube from the outside and held in place under the rim of the metal frame. The valve has two parts: a core and a body. It is located on the inner tube, and protrudes through a hole in the metal frame of the wheel.

With the bike upside down, move the wheel until the valve is easy to reach. Insert the valve key into the tip and turn it counter-clockwise until the core comes out. Put the core aside. The tube will now deflate quickly. Wedge the handle of one spoon between the tire and the metal rim of the wheel, laying the spoon flat against the spokes of the wheel. Repeat with the second spoon about 15 cm away from the first.

The spoon handles create a lever to extricate one side of the tire from the rim without damaging the inner tube. With your fingers (and the spoon handles if necessary) begin working your way around the wheel until the entire side of the tire facing you is outside of the rim. Insert your fingers under the loose "lip" of the tire and pull out the deflated inner tube.

Push the valve body out of the hole in the wheel frame. The tube is now separated from the frame but still attached to the bike. Replace the valve core with the valve key, turning clockwise. Inflate the tube with the pump.

Bring the bucket of water close to the bike. Submerge the tube - a portion at a time - into the water. When bubbles appear, you have located the puncture. Remove the tube and dry the area around the puncture thoroughly. Circle the puncture with a ball-point pen.

Again remove the valve core

with the key to deflate the tube. With the fine sandpaper, sand around the puncture until the rubber becomes lighter in color. Remark with the pen, as the first mark will have been erased by the sanding.

Apply a small glob of the glue to the puncture. With a circular motion, smear the glue around the entire sanded area to create a thin, even coat. Wait five minutes. Feel off the backing of the patch. (If cutting out your own patch, make sure it is not smaller than a half-shekel coin and has rounded edges. Corners can peel.)

Place the patch over the glue-covered puncture and smooth it with your fingers. Let it dry for 20 minutes.

Replace the tube into its track, making sure to reinsert the valve body through its hole in the wheel frame first. With both hands, hoist the tube into the

track. When you get to the point of the puncture, stop before continuing the tube insertion. Carefully slide your forefinger into the tire to see if the nail or other sharp object is still lodged there. If so, pinch the outside of the tire at that spot and extract the culprit with long-nosed pliers or a small screwdriver.

Reinsert the valve core with the key. Attach the pump and pump a few times to iron out the wrinkles in the tube.

With both hands, reinsert the lip of the tire into the rim. The last 20 cm or so will be tricky. (Here, as you insert one side, the other will begin to come out.) Hold one side in place under the rim, while flipping the other into the track with the spoon handle. Once the whole tire is in the track, attach the pump to the valve and inflate the tire.

If you have a question or can suggest simple solutions to annoying problems, write to: "Fix It Yourself," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

Radio signals its centennial year

GUIDING astronauts in space, calling the other side of the world, or opening the garage door by remote control: it's a long way from Guglielmo Marconi's tinkering with electric wires 100 years ago.

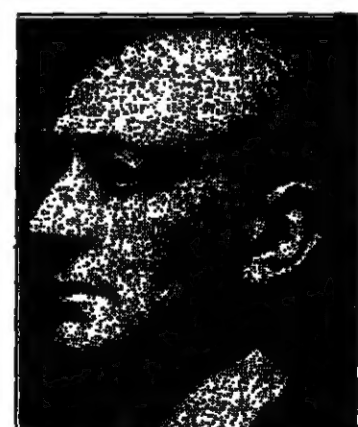
The centennial of radio transmission was celebrated Saturday at a world conference on telecommunications.

"I don't know what we'd do without radio," said Michel Giroux of the International Telecommunication Union, a UN agency hosting the Telecom conference.

Edward Miller, formerly of NASA, said radio waves - transmitted over the ground and by satellite - will extend telephones and other devices to the 60 percent of the world's population who still don't have them.

"The vision of the future is a complex network that is easy to use and that is enjoyed by all the people of the world," Miller said.

But the use of radio goes far beyond news and music. The movements of taxis, police cars and ambulances are coordi-



Guglielmo Marconi: Sparked the breakthrough in telecommunications.

Credit for the invention is disputed. The Russians claim it was their own Alexander Popov.

The rest of the world attributes it to Marconi, an Irish-Italian who did his experiments in his father's estate near Bologna, where he got a signal to travel from an antenna to a receiver 100 meters away.

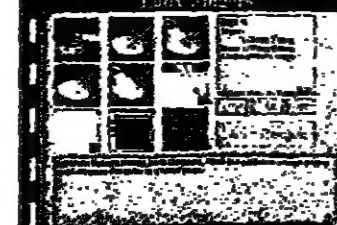
His work received little support in Italy, so Marconi moved to Britain in 1896.

A breakthrough came in 1901 when he succeeded in receiving signals in Canada that were transmitted from Britain.

Five years later an experimental radio program - two musical selections, a poem and a short talk - was broadcast in the US by Reginald Aubrey Fessenden from Brant Rock, Massachusetts, and picked up by ships in the Atlantic.

Radio programming developed quickly after World War I. The Hague had regular broadcasts starting in November 1919, the US and Canada followed the next year. (AP)

In these times you cannot AFFORD to be without THE JERUSALEM POST



THE WORLD OF CUISINE ON CD-ROM

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To: Thanks, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. Please send me The Art of Making Great Pastries in NIS 179 per copy. Enclosed is my check payable to The Jerusalem Post, or credit card details:

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What an Event



Strategists try out their favorite moves in the chess room.



Daniel (left) and Ian Bank didn't have to travel far to enjoy the Olympic-sized pool - they're from Netanya.

How do you keep 15,000 English-speaking Israelis happy for an entire day? Give them a dizzying array of activities, plus beautiful autumn weather.

The Wingate Institute near Netanya provided the perfect venue; the British, North American, South African and Australian immigrant associations - together with



A cricketer shows splendid home-run hitting form as he whacks the ball for six.



Boaz Porat of Moshav Avihai effortlessly takes on the forces of gravity with a bounce on a trampoline.



Like at any other Israeli happening, the most exciting event at The Event was - lunch.



There aren't any fish around, so these two young scuba divers satisfy themselves by scrutinizing the swimming pool's tiles.



The Elbaum family from Jerusalem seems to have divergent interests, judging by the headgear: Mom's wearing a sunhat, the boys, crash helmets.



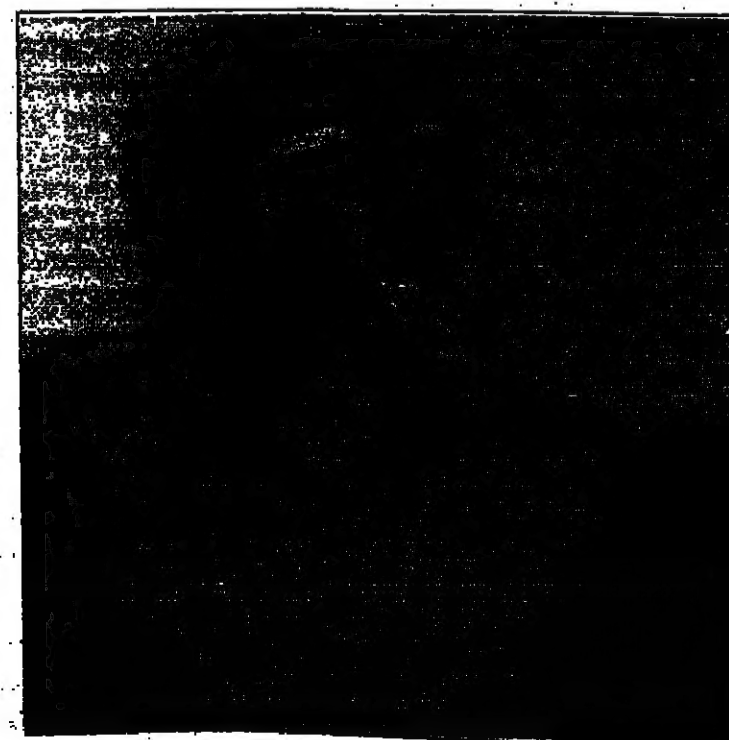
The 'no pain, no gain' theory doesn't apply to this aerobics class.



She puts a spin on the ball like you wouldn't believe. This is bowling for the most civilized of sorts.



Faces in the crowd were young and old, but very few were surrounded by bodyguards - and only one was booed.



Israel's swimming Olympic hopeful Dan Kutler continues to prepare for victory in Atlanta in '96.

הכרזת האירוע

THE EVENT

ful day it was!

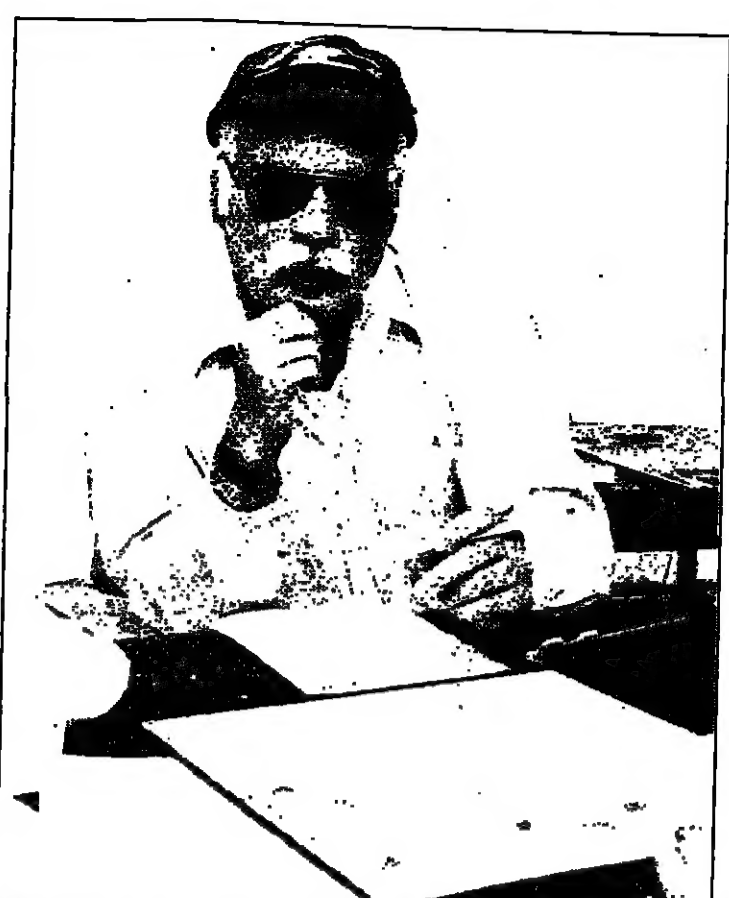
ESRA and *The Jerusalem Post* proved to be ideal hosts.

The aim of Tuesday's Event was "to give our community our own special day," said one of the organizers.

Photographers Sarit Uziely and Sharon Gershoni passed up the opportunity to join in the fun, to present this pictorial perspective.



Arieh Bauman from Efrat takes a break from a football game to search for cheerleaders.



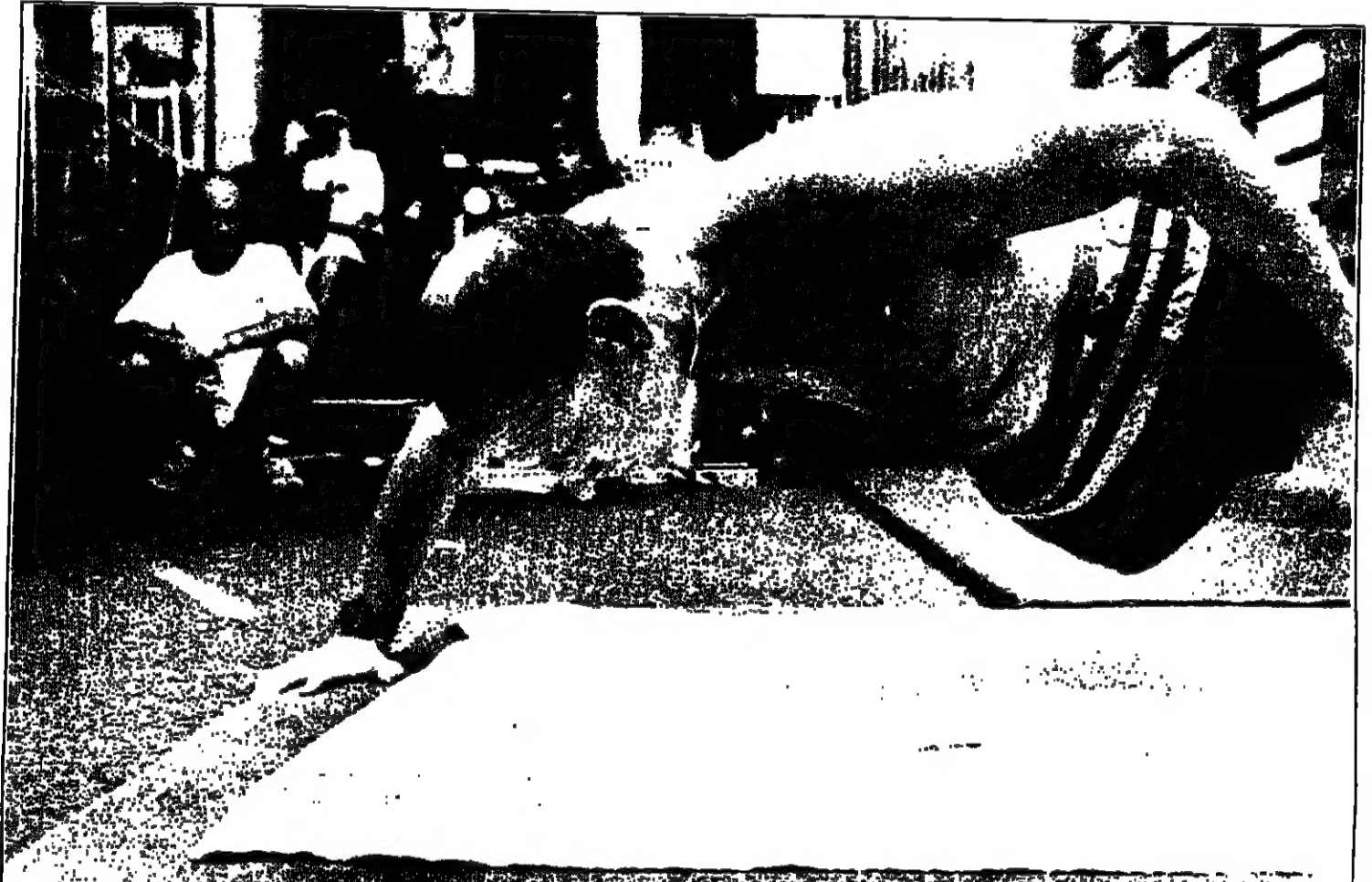
Jeff Pollack of Arad keeps in touch with his mother tongue by playing a game of Scrabble.



Shahar Perkis shows some avid youngsters what it takes to be a giant in the tennis world.



The kite seems to be getting the better of Ari from Moshav Tirat Yehuda.



Steven Kramer, 50, tries for a world record by doing 1,000 one-handed push-ups in 25 minutes. At 500, he gave up.



What has wheels and flies? These days, rollerblading kids.



Go fly a kite, Hadas!



Hands at work (top to bottom): A young pianist at the Yamaha workshop; Tal Brody holds a phantom basketball during a clinic; a volunteer directs traffic. In true Anglo-Saxon style, nobody honked.



While everyone else is running around in the hot sun, Mark Leaman gets a massage.



Everyone looks happy now, but shortly afterwards, at this exact spot, the mood turned ugly when Prime Minister Rabin took the stage.



The final event: A well-deserved snooze for the man who tried to do everything.

Skewed vision

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1995

Provident, training funds: NIS 185m. in net outflows

PROVIDENT and training funds (Kupot gemel and kranot hishtalmut) suffered from net outflows of NIS 185 million in September, compared with net outflows of NIS 157m. in August and NIS 271m. in July, the Treasury reported yesterday.

So far this year the cumulative net outflow from the funds is NIS 4.8 billion.

The figures are based on data collected by the Treasury from the major banks and represent a significant moderation of the out-

NEIL COHEN

flows experienced earlier in the year, when they were averaging NIS 800m. a month.

Panicked savers rushed to withdraw their money earlier in the year when the stock market was falling, prompting fears of a financial crisis, but have displayed a more relaxed attitude as the TASE has recovered.

In September, savers withdrew NIS 275m. from provident funds, compared with NIS 283m. in Au-

gust and NIS 364m. in July.

Withdrawals hit their peak in April at NIS 1.23b. The cumulative withdrawal so far this year has been NIS 5.32b.

By contrast, training funds, which have shorter lives and bigger tax advantages, have seen inflows every month except April.

In September, savers deposited NIS 90m., compared with NIS 126m. in August and NIS 93m. in July.

The cumulative total inflow for the year has been NIS 523m.

Koor plans private allocation to local institutional investors

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

KOOR Industries, the largest industrial group in the country, is planning a private allocation to 35 Israeli institutional investors as part of its first global public share offering.

Koor Underwriters and Issuers, a subsidiary of Koor Capital Markets, will manage the allocation. The offering is scheduled for the middle of November.

Koor senior officials, headed by president and CEO Benjamin Gaon, began a four-week road show yesterday in preparation for the offering.

The company plans to raise about \$150 million. The proceeds are expected to expand the company's business and help the conglomerate invest in acquisitions abroad.

The company has filed with the US Securities & Exchange Commission for an offering of 6.95 million American Depositary Shares (ADS), representing 1.39 million ordinary shares.

According to the draft prospectus, Koor will offer about 60 per-

cent of the shares on the American market and the remaining 40% worldwide, mainly in Europe. The private allocation will be issued as part of the European package.

The company's shares are currently traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. The global offering will mark the first time the shares are listed on a foreign exchange.

The ADS, representing 10% of the company's market capitaliza-

tion, will be listed on the New York Stock Exchange and the SEAO in London. The shares' value will be priced at the start of November.

US investment bank Smith Barney will lead the public offering along with investment bank Lehman Brothers. Other underwriters include Oppenheimer and Schroder Wertheim.

Investment banks Union Bank of Switzerland and BZW, a member of the Barclays Group, were chosen as lead underwriters for the international issue.

Steinhardt funds to return investors' capital

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

NEW York financier Michael Steinhardt, winding down in the hedge-fund business, announced yesterday he is returning his investors' capital in the Steinhardt funds - now valued at \$2.6 billion.

Steinhardt's Israeli enterprises, including his stake in the Maritime Bank and real estate development in Tel Aviv and Zichron Ya'acov, will not be affected, a Steinhardt spokesman said.

"After devoting the last 28 years to managing the Steinhardt funds, I have decided that the end of this year will be the time to turn my energies to new projects," he wrote in a letter, dated yesterday, to his limited partners.

The time and intensity required to manage the four funds "left me unable to pursue other interests in depth, both personal and communal," Steinhardt wrote. He did not identify what those interests might be.

When Steinhardt began the first of his four funds, in 1967, he managed \$7.5 million in assets. The funds now top \$2.6b., according to Steinhardt's office.

Steinhardt's funds, which traded in liquid securities, are expected to pay investors "a substantial portion" beginning at year's end.

Mena: Don't approve Tnuva's request for higher dairy prices

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MK DAVID Mena (Likud) yesterday appealed to the Finance Ministry not to approve Tnuva's request for a hike in the price of dairy products of between seven and eight percent.

Earlier this week Tnuva asked the ministry to approve a rise, because the company is losing money from its dairy business.

In a letter sent to Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, Mena said there is no reason to raise prices, since Tnuva does not reduce prices when it makes profits from its dairy activities.

"Does the public have to pay for Tnuva's blunders resulting from the Silicon affair, which led to losses of NIS 2m.?" Mena said.

Tnuva asked the ministry to approve a price rise due to its losses from the sale of milk products.

In the first six months of the year, Tnuva purchased 5% more milk than it did in the same period last year, but demand only increased 3%.

Tnuva said it purchased 60 million liters of milk from producers last year, significantly higher than demand.

As a result, the company has accumulated large dairy surpluses which are expensive to store and difficult to sell.

The company currently has 2,000 tons of hard cheese in stock and another 3,500 tons of milk powder.

Mena: There is no reason to raise prices, since Tnuva does not reduce them when it makes profits.

In addition, Tnuva must pay dairy farmers NIS 12m. because they exceeded their milk quotas.

Study: More competition, less state control of capital market could weaken banks

NEIL COHEN

INCREASED competition and reduced government involvement in the capital market come at a price, according to a paper prepared for the Bank of Israel by Dr. Oved Yotsh and Dr. Yishai Yaffe, advisors to the bank's research department.

In a financial system at whose center stands strong banks which engage in a broad range of activities and maintain close ties with the business sector, including owning stakes in non-financial firms, the main source of finance

for business is bank credit.

In an economy like the US, at whose center stands the stock exchange, the banks play second fiddle in providing finance to business.

The reform in the Israeli capital market could, among other things, weaken the power of the banks, with the stock market taking over their position.

According to the report, there are many advantages to the process, the main of which is increased competition. However, according to the paper, the transition from a bank-mediated system to stock market-based one has its negative aspects.

In a stock market based financial system, there are virtually no ties between the financial sector and business sector.

This means that small businesses often suffer from lack of sources of capital, absence of guidance and support of a "main bank" in difficult times.

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Dead Sea Bromides reportedly in deal with Jordanian mining firm

THE Dead Sea Bromide Co., a subsidiary of Israel Chemicals, last week initiated an agreement with a Jordanian mining company concerning cooperation in setting up a joint venture for the production of bromides, *Telegraph* reported yesterday.

The deal is valued at \$50 million.

The document initiated last week is a framework agreement, and full details of the cooperation have to be worked out. The two parties will be equal partners in the project.

The plant for the extraction of bromides will be built on the Jordanian side of the Dead Sea. In the first stage, the annual production will be 25,000 tons, which is roughly eight percent of the present annual capacity of Dead Sea Bromides.

The company couldn't be reached for comment.

(Bloomberg)

Electric Fuel files to sell three million shares in Nov.

NEIL COHEN

ELECTRIC Fuel Corporation (EFCX), the Jerusalem-based electric battery company, last night filed to sell three million shares in a secondary offering managed by Lehman Brothers and Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, the company announced yesterday.

The offering is scheduled to start some time next month.

The indication price quoted in the registration statement was \$9.125.

Electric Fuel shares rose \$0.25 to \$8.875 last night on the New York Stock Exchange.

Electric Fuel went public in February 1994 at a price of \$12.50.

Next month the company is scheduled to begin field tests in Germany of 64 vehicles.

The vehicles will principally be for the German Post Office and telephone company, using its proprietary zinc-air battery technology.

Exports of alcoholic beverages up 371% since 1990

Jerusalem Post Staff

EXPORTS of wine and other alcoholic beverages have increased dramatically since 1990, Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish said yesterday, while opening the Wine Festival at the Carmel Mizrahi winery in Rishon LeZion.

He said exports totaled \$19.75 million last year, a 371 percent increase from \$5.316m. in 1990.

Exports of wine and grape juice - mainly to the US, Russia, and Britain - totaled \$6.25m. last year, Harish said.

Exports of other alcoholic beverages, excluding beer, totaled \$13.5m.

In the first months of 1995, the rise continued, and exports are expected to reach \$21m. this year, he added. He said most of the increase came from exports to the former Soviet Union and other parts of eastern Europe.

"Israel is selling ice to Eskimos," he said. "We are exporting vodka to the former Soviet Union. Carmel Mizrahi exports some 75% of the total exports, and its exports increased 45% a year between 1992 and 1995. The company is one of the world's 100 largest producers and exporters of alcoholic beverages."

Macpell to fire 130 workers at Kfar Manda factory

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MACPELL will be forced to fire 130 of its employees working at the Kfar Manda plant near Nazareth as part of a series of efficiency measures intended to reduce its losses, the company announced yesterday.

In an announcement to the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, the company said it will be forced to reduce its workforce because of changes in the plant's production network.

Macpell said most of the workers to be dismissed will be offered

alternative work in one of the company's other sites.

The firm plans to absorb 60 of the workers in its main factory in Afeka.

"The changes are likely to contribute to the group's efficiency, but at this stage it is not possible to measure the expected influence," Macpell said.

Since the start of the year the textile manufacturer, which counts the Gap as a major customer, has implemented several efficiency measures - including sub-contracting to outside manufacturers.

Macpell completed the first six months with a NIS 3.03 million net loss, compared with a net loss of NIS 6.02m. in the same period last year and a NIS 16.26m. net loss all of last year.

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Jerusalem District Electricity Co. Ltd.

Tender No. 30/95

ACCESSORIES FOR O/H TWISTED CABLES

Bids are invited for the supply of Accessories for O/H Twisted Cables - Tender No. 30/95.

A copy of the specifications and conditions of tender can be obtained from the Secretary of the Board of Directors, 15 Salah el-Din Street, East Jerusalem, Tel. 282335/6/7, until October 31, 1995.

Bids should be submitted not later than 12 noon on November 20, 1995.

Israel's High Tech Edge in Banking

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12 Kfar Haatzmaut, Netanya • Tel: 09-344577

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Pound (foreign currency deposit rates) (12.10.95)			
	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (USD100,000)	4.750	4.750	5.125
French franc (FF100,000)	0.0571	0.0569	0.0570
German mark (DM100,000)	2.500	2.500	2.750
Swiss franc (SF100,000)	1.125	1.125	1.250
Yen (¥10 million)			

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (11.10.95)			
	BUY	SELL	Rate
U.S. dollar	3.4546	3.4596	3.4573
U.S. dollar (bank)	2.9740	3.0150	2.9945
German mark	2.0225	2.1270	2.0748
French franc	4.8974	4.7891	4.8433
Japanese yen (¥100)	0.0571	0.0569	0.0570
Dutch guilder	2.5425	2.5900	2.5663
Swiss franc	1.8980	1.8930	1.8955
Swedish krona	2.5817	2.5854	2.5836
British pound	0.4288	0.4308	0.4298
Norwegian krona	0.4747	0.4824	0.4786
Denmark krone	0.5389	0.5476	0.5433
Finnish mark	0.5585	0.5705	0.5645
Canadian dollar	2.2211	2.2570	2.2391
Australian dollar	2.2718	2.3085	2.2902
S. African rand	0.6138	0.6271	0.6205
Belgian franc (FF100)	1.0771	1.0836	1.0804
Austrian schilling (S)	2.5782	2.6222	2.6002
Italian lire (L1000)	1.8468	1.8754	1.8611
Japanese yen (¥100)	0.0571	0.0569	0.0570
Spanish peseta (P100)	2.4147	2.4589	2.4368

* These rates vary according to bank. — Bank of Israel.
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Shetreet cursed by haredim at Western Wall

HAIM SHAPIRO

RELIGIOUS Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet had no *erogim* when he was thrown at him yesterday, but he did not escape a barrage of curses and insults when he visited the Western Wall.

A cordon of police guarded Shetreet when he came to the Wall for the mass priestly blessing, attended by tens of thousands of worshippers.

Scores of haredim surrounded the succa of the chief rabbis and tried to break in when Shetreet made a courtesy call there. Some threw unopened soft drink cans, and a rock later hit the minister's car.

On Tuesday, wall posters calling for worshippers to pelt Shetreet with *erogim* had appeared in Mea She'arim.

Shetreet has angered many haredim with his unwillingness to continue the existing system of allocating funds to yeshivot and other religious institutions and for such acts as calling for government funding to help those unable to marry according to halacha to wed abroad.

In the first century BCE, worshippers in the Temple had pelted

the high priest and king, Alexander Yannai, with *erogim* when he acted contrary to the accepted interpretation of halacha.

Later in the day, speaking to a group of religious leaders, including the heads of some yeshivot, Shetreet said that he had decided to attend the event at the Wall despite the placards.

"We cannot allow a small group of people, who would throw *erogim* or even talk about it, to set the tone," he said.

On his lapel, he wore a sticker reading "Judaism with love," which had been printed for the holiday by Machon Meir, a Jerusalem yeshiva.

Shetreet noted that in the *Birkat Kohanim*, the priests speak of blessing the people of Israel with love.

"If there were love, there would not be such extremism," he said.

Shetreet said that despite the attacks on him, he would continue to demand that subsidies for yeshivot and other institutions be allocated according to objective criteria, that *kashrut* certificates



Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet greets visitors to the Western Wall yesterday.

(Isaac Harari)

be granted solely on the basis of observance of *kashrut* and not other factors, and that burial facilities be available for all.

He also noted that although the most vocal attacks had come from yeshivot, it was the religious councils that were in the most

dire financial straits. The cumulative deficit of the religious councils totals NIS 83 million, Shetreet said.

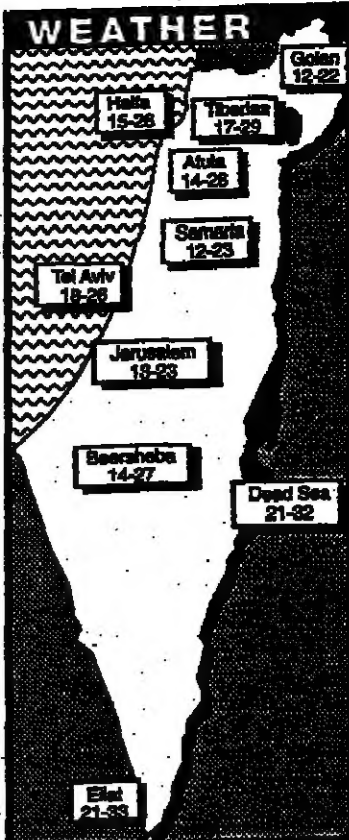
Meanwhile, Shetreet said his ministry would investigate the appearance of dollar bills in a holiday gift package distributed

to ministry workers by a religious institution. Shetreet said that a worker had reported finding the cash in the gift package, but he could not say whether other employees had also received such cash gifts.

If the inclusion of the bills was

intentional, he said, it was a very serious matter, which went against every rule of proper management.

He said that he was shaken by the thought that in 1995 anyone could believe that they could extend their influence in this way.



AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH
Amman	15-20	20-25
Bahia	25-30	30-35
Buenos Aires	15-20	20-25
Chicago	10-15	15-20
London	10-15	15-20
Los Angeles	15-20	20-25
Madrid	15-20	20-25
Mexico City	15-20	20-25
New York	10-15	15-20
Paris	10-15	15-20
Rio de Janeiro	25-30	30-35
Sao Paulo	25-30	30-35
Tel Aviv	18-25	25-30
Tokyo	15-20	20-25
Washington	10-15	15-20

Harish: Likud to blame for attacks on Rabin

SARAH HONIG

THE Likud is to blame for extreme right-wing outbursts against Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the will pay a heavy electoral price for it, Trade and Industry Minister Micha Harish said yesterday.

He was speaking at a press conference at which he unveiled recommendations drawn up by a Labor Party committee to plan for the upcoming elections he headed.

Harish also predicted that MK David Levy will tip the electoral balance in Rabin's favor in his bid for another term.

"We are facing fascism," Harish said, "and these fascists will most of all do great electoral harm to the Likud. They are incited by Likud propaganda, but the silent majority will rise up against the fascists. The backlash will hit Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu, who will be identified in the public mind with the extreme right."

"Labor will no doubt benefit from this, because the battle for leadership in this country is ultimately decided in the political center. The fascists will frighten the centrists away from the Likud."

Harish had no doubt that "based on their past tendencies and present moderate inclinations, Levy's supporters will come out for Rabin in the battle for the premiership. Nothing has been settled formally yet, but

there are plenty of unofficial contacts about this with the Levy side, and we feel confident about their support when the time comes."

"We are sure that our supporters will vote for David Levy for prime minister," a source close to Levy said. "Levy is in the running, and the question about who they will support in the runoff is irrelevant, because we are confident that Levy will make it easily to the second round, so his voters will not be left with having to decide on alternative candidates."

But if he doesn't make the second round, the source admitted that he is not sure if Levy can keep his followers - most of them expected to come from the Likud and Shas - from backing Netanyahu.

Harish's plans for the elections include a two-pronged strategy, concentrating on both the direct contest for premier and the Knesset race.

"The accent will be on local affairs," he said. "We will stress in each region the local interests unique to that area and how Labor candidates from that part of the country can help the local voter."

"The aim will be not to dwell so much on national matters, foreign affairs, and defense, but to stress what is important for everyday life in different parts of the country."



President Ezer Weizman and his wife Reuma greet a family of well-wishers during the open house yesterday in the Weizman succa.

(Photo Noy)

Weizman at open house: Attacks must stop

BATSHEVA TSUR

There are forces that can stop it if they wish."

He president refused to elaborate on the subject.

Weizman and his wife, Reuma, received some 8,000 guests at an open house in their succa, shaking hands with all and returning greetings for a happy holiday. Some of the visitors offered the president advice on political matters and many brought along some gift to show their affection.

Among the throng were children of Chernobyl, who came with their teachers from Kfar Habad, immigrants new and old from Yemen, youth groups, pensioners, Arab schoolchildren from Ramle, and members of the Moleket Party young guard.

Even tourists visiting the city took the opportunity to see the president and his wife in person. "What I really liked was that the president was so accessible," said Adam Lomant of Ottawa, Canada. "For me, as a tourist, to meet the head of state was a unforgettable experience."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Acre residents object to collaborators

There are 24 families of Palestinians who aided the authorities currently living in Acre, Mayor Eli De Castro said yesterday, after meeting with representatives of the Collaborators Rehabilitation Administration and a residents committee. But, he added, the municipality has no intention of becoming a refuge for more collaborators.

The meeting followed Tuesday's demonstration by dozens of local residents against the presence of collaborators in the town.

Rape victim seeks disabled veteran status

A man who was raped while doing his compulsory IDF service seven years ago, and says he has yet to recover from the trauma, has asked the army to recognize him as a disabled veteran.

He told Israel Radio yesterday he had been raped while hitchhiking from one base to his post at another, and blamed the army for forcing him to hitchhike by not providing other means of transportation. "If the army had worried about transportation, none of this would have happened," he said.

Six Hah Vekayam activists arrested

Six members of the right-wing extremist group Hah Vekayam were arrested yesterday as they tried to shove past police guarding entrances to the Temple Mount. About 25 members of the group tussled with police at the Cotton Merchants' Gate, where three were arrested.

The group then proceeded to the gate at the end of the Street of the Chains, where a second scuffle with police broke out and three more were arrested. Hah Vekayam leader Yehuda Etzion said from his home in Ofra that the group would try again.

Peace Now cites boom in territories

The number of building starts in the territories is now the highest since 1992, Peace Now said in a report it has forwarded to the Interministerial Committee on Building in the Settlements.

The group claimed that building has continued in 12 settlements that did not receive permission from the committee. "The figures show that despite the good intentions of the peace government, activities in the field are being carried out that are far from the government's policies and which are setting up obstacles of hatred that will prevent the peace process from going forward," Peace Now said.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Rabin to Peretz: I will make every effort to get Ramon trio back to Labor

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin said he would make every effort to enable the return of MKs Haim Ramon, Amir Peretz and Shmuel Avital to Labor, and

would even consider the possibility of open primaries, Peretz said yesterday after meeting Rabin.

Peretz met Rabin in preparation for the prime minister's

meeting with Histadrut Chairman Ramon, scheduled for the end of the week, to discuss Ramon's conditions for the trio's return to Labor.

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Ramon is demanding reserved slots on Labor's Knesset list for the three maverick MKs, who were expelled from Labor when they decided to run against the party in the Histadrut elections. The expulsion has since been revoked and Ramon is now conditioning their return on ensuring

their places on Labor's Knesset list in the party primaries.

Sources close to Ramon yesterday accused Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zivili of trying to sabotage Ramon's return to the party by drumming up opposition in Labor to reserving Knesset slots for the three MKs.

Rabin told Peretz that many in Labor's leadership are pressuring

him not to reserve places for the Ramon trio. As for the idea of open primaries - in which voting would be open to the general public and not limited to Labor Party members - Rabin said he did not object but such a move would require holding a party convention to decide on the issue.

According to Peretz, Rabin is well aware of the damage to both himself and Labor, if Ramon decides to field an independent list in the Knesset elections, and will therefore act to overcome party opposition and get Ramon and his maverick colleagues back to Labor.

One of the stauncher objectors to reserved Knesset slots is Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who made it clear to Ramon at a recent meeting that his objection is not personal but a principle one.

After the meeting with Rabin, Rabin is scheduled to meet the head of the Histadrut's organization-section Pnini Shomer, of Labor, who regards himself as candidate to "succeed" Ramon as Histadrut chairman.

Ramon is expected to leave the Histadrut early next year, in order to meet the primaries' deadline, whether he returns to Labor or for his own list.

Both Ramon and Peretz are eager to have Peretz replace Ramon as Histadrut chairman, although it is not clear whether Peretz would be able to continue in this position following the legislation forbidding Knesset members to hold down other jobs.

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapais daily Clameo card draw, the lucky cards were the nine of spades, king of hearts, eight of diamonds, and nine of clubs.

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